

NYPL RESEARCH LIBRARIES



3 3433 08192362 9



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2008 with funding from  
Microsoft Corporation























*E. M. Morehouse, M.D.*

# HISTORY OF RICE AND STEELE COUNTIES MINNESOTA

COMPILED BY  
FRANKLYN CURTISS-WEDGE

ASSISTED BY

Stephen Jewett, Esq.; George C. Tanner, D. D.; James Dobbin, D. D.; A. C. Rogers, M. D.; A. E. Haven, Esq.; M. M. Shields, Esq.; A. W. McKinstry, Esq.; Hon. James Hunter; Prof. Harry E. Whitney; Hon. D. F. Kelley; Hon. J. C. Couper; Prof. Horace Goodhue; Hon. W. A. Sperry; B. E. Darby, Esq.; E. E. Bigelow, M. D.; Hon. F. A. Dunham; W. G. Clarkson, Esq.; Hon. John C. Brainerd; C. C. Campbell, Esq.; Virgil J. Temple, Esq.; Frank M. Kaisersott, Esq.; J. J. Rachac, Esq.; Dr. E. K. Clements; Frederick A. Davis, M. D.; Prof. J. H. Lewis; Prof. Philip J. Kuntz; H. F. Luers, Esq.; L. L. Bennett, M. D.; Hon. J. M. Diment; William Kaiser, Esq.; J. H. Adair, M D; Hon. J. R. Morley, and many others.

---

*Illustrated*

---

VOL. II

---

CHICAGO  
H. C. COOPER, JR., & CO.  
1910







## CHAPTER XI

### IMPORTANT EVENTS

Deaths, Accidents, Crimes, Fires, and Thousands of Interesting  
Events Transpiring Between January, 1888, and June, 1910—  
Compiled from Newspaper Files.

The history of the settlement, growth and progress of Steele county is treated in detail in the various chapters in this history. In this chapter, it has been the aim of the editors to record, in chronological order, events transpiring from January, 1888, to June, 1910, as recorded in the files of the newspapers. But briefest mention is given here to each event, and much, especially relating to matters which received attention elsewhere, has been omitted. Nevertheless the reader will find here much of interest, together with thousands of items which may have escaped the memory of the people of the county and which are here recorded.

1888. January 2, the Church Hotel, owned by Mrs. Abbey C. Albro, at Owatonna, was burned to the ground, the loss being \$5,000. January 16, the Farmers' Institute for Steele county opened at Chambers' Hall, Owatonna. February 7, 1888, the city council of Owatonna voted \$3,000 to be given toward building a college in connection with Pillsbury Academy, with the provision that the fund was not to be used unless a \$30,000 college building should be completed within two years. February 12, Jacob Olenejeck, night watchman at the Owatonna Packing House, was murdered during the night, by persons unknown, being found dead the next morning. February 21, the Owatonna city council voted to submit to the people at the election to be held March 13 the question of issuing \$40,000 bonds for water-works. March 13, the people of Owatonna decided upon the issue of bonds, by a majority of eight. Fraud was alleged, however, and this caused the bonds to be unsalable. June 5, the Southern Minnesota G. A. R. encampment was held at Owatonna. July 4 was celebrated with appropriate ceremonies at Blooming Prairie and Medford. September 18 to 21, the General Conference Association of Minnesota held its annual meeting at Owatonna. October 7, Louis Bion, who was a native of Bavaria, Germany, died at Owatonna. November 16, C. W. Hadley, of Owatonna, invented an automatic grain measure which proved a great success. December 7, Roy Garfield Hellway and Frank Dana Mid-



daugh, each eight years of age, were drowned in Straight river at Owatonna, while skating. December 9, the Steele County Bible Society held its annual meeting at the Methodist Church.

1889. February 15, at midnight, the Nickerson House at Owatonna caught fire and burned to the ground in spite of the gallant efforts of the fire department. The loss was about \$3,000. This hotel had been known as the Tremont House, and belonged to W. Nickerson, of Dodge Center. The "Free Press" of February 15 contained the information that Dr. E. M. Morehouse was building in Owatonna the finest brick hotel in southern Minnesota, outside of the Twin Cities. February 26, a big fire occurred in Blooming Prairie village, destroying an entire business block. Fire started in the postoffice building soon after 11 o'clock in the evening. Nothing was saved in M. Guthrie's store, which contained the postoffice. The store of G. Jensen & Co. speedily took fire and burned. E. Morton's store and the hardware store of T. Feeney were the next to catch fire, and they, in turn, set fire to the building occupied by Camp's harness shop and Charles Treat's barber shop. The total loss was \$25,500. March 18, the Steele County Poultry Association was formed. April 10, Dexter Smith died at Owatonna. He was born in Cayuga county, New York, in 1822. April 16, A. M. Stoughton died at Owatonna, at the age of seventy-four years. He was born in Wethersfield, Vt., in 1814, came to Minnesota in 1856, was deacon in the Congregational Church at Owatonna; was deputy auditor of Steele county for many years, and was serving as city treasurer of Owatonna at the time of his death. April 27, William Panzer, of Owatonna, was struck and killed by a train on the Chicago & Northwestern Railway tracks. May 10, Frank Chadwick, son of Judge Chadwick, received an appointment to the Naval Academy at Annapolis. June 8, the Agricultural and Industrial Association of Steele County was formed. July 4 was appropriately celebrated at Owatonna. August 30, J. W. Morford died at Owatonna. He was born in Oneida county, New York, in 1830, and came to Owatonna in 1856. September 17-19, a big county fair was held at Owatonna. Governor Merriam and Hon. George H. Pillsbury were present. October 29, Mrs. L. L. Inman, a prominent member of the W. R. C., died at Owatonna. October 30, a Tradesmen's Carnival was held at Germania Hall, Owatonna. December 3, a new ordinance was passed, granting a franchise to the Owatonna Heat and Power Company to put in an electric plant before June 1, at Owatonna. December 8, Andrew Jackson Pettie died at Blooming Prairie at the age of sixty-three years. He was born in Worcester, Otsego county, N. Y., and lived in Blooming Prairie twenty-eight years, owning a farm there before the village was started. December 21, 1889, Chris-

topher Betts, of Owatonna, shot and killed his wife and then committed suicide.

1890. January 6, John Hammel died at Owatonna, at the age of sixty-six years. January 7, the county commissioners canceled \$41,000 of bonds which had been issued to aid the Duluth, Red Wing & Southern Railway Company. January 15, John Bixby died at Aurora township. He was born in Moretown, Washington county, Vt., and came to Aurora in 1856, with his wife and family. February 12, Mrs. Mary Peavey died at Clinton Falls. She was born in Canada in 1815, and in 1864 she came with her husband to Clinton Falls. February 18, the city council of Owatonna purchased an artesian well from F. P. Rust, for \$700, to be used in the waterworks system. March 21, Dr. G. A. Rossback died at Owatonna. He was born in Germany, near the borders of France, in 1818, served as surgeon in the Union army, and then came to Owatonna. April 2, the Steele County Sunday School Association held its first meeting of the year, at Blooming Prairie. April 8, bids were received by the Owatonna city council for waterworks contract. It was let to Harrison & Hawley for \$28,763. April 10, the annual meeting of the Steele County Humane Society was held at Owatonna. April 15, the city council of Owatonna voted bonds to the amount of \$30,000, for the waterworks system, the bonds to run for twenty years at 5 per cent interest. May 3, the Bion brewery at Owatonna was burned, entailing a loss of about \$5,000. May 7, an Owatonna Baseball Association was formed. May 26, the Owatonna Driving Association was formed for the purpose of racing, breeding and training fast horses. May 20, the waterworks bonds of Owatonna were sold to S. A. Keene & Co., of Chicago, for \$30,110. June 3, the Owatonna city council purchased E. P. Ring's lots for a standpipe location. June 6, the following census enumerators of Steele county were named: Summit, Jeff Clark; Berlin, H. A. Finch; Aurora, J. Bucklin; Somerset, J. H. Healey; Lemond, W. W. Day; Havana, O. M. Jones; township of Owatonna, Sanford Kinney; city of Owatonna, P. Bliss; Meriden, J. R. Petrich; Merton, L. H. Lane; Medford, G. H. Butler; Clinton Falls, Ed. Adams; Deerfield, P. P. Moe; Blooming Prairie, A. Colquhoun. June, 25, three children, one son and two daughters of John Kujawa, were drowned in the Straight river, at Medford. July 4, a big celebration was held at Owatonna. July 8, John and William Donaldson, sons of Edward Donaldson, were drowned in the Straight river at Owatonna. July 11, the Pierce Brothers began building the Owatonna electric light plant. July 15, the county commissioners levied \$13,500 for a court house, cost not to exceed \$40,000. August 4, a severe wind and hail storm visited River Point. Hundreds of acres of

grain were destroyed. Windows facing the west were all destroyed, hailstones falling as big as teacups. September 16, the Steele county fair was held at Owatonna. December 3, the county commissioners awarded a contract to F. D. Allen as architect for the new court house, his compensation not to exceed \$1,200. December 9, the second annual exhibition of the Steele County Poultry Association proved a great success.

**1891.** January 9, Charles Brady died at Deerfield. He was born in County Meath, Ireland, in 1800, and came to Deerfield with his wife in 1856. February 13, John C. Olson died at Owatonna, at the age of forty-one years. March 8, Mr. and Mrs. Cotter, who came to Steele county in 1864, celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary at Havana. April 10, a Knights of Pythias lodge was inaugurated at Medford, with twenty-five members. April 13, the State Teachers' Institute for Steele county met at Germania Hall, Owatonna. May 16, Mayor E. M. Morehouse, of Owatonna, was seriously injured by falling down a stairway leading from his bedroom to a basement. He fell about 12:30 a. m. and was not found until 9:15 a. m., lying unconscious until discovered by his son Martin. May 18, Isaac Watts Burch died at Owatonna, at the age of fifty-two years. He had been clerk of the County Court for twelve years, city recorder for a longer period, and a deacon in the Congregational Church. May 23, Dr. E. M. Morehouse died at his home in Owatonna from the results of a fall. He was the first physician in Steele county. June 20, the old settlers of Steele county met in Owatonna, at Central Park. July 4, the old settlers of Steele county held a picnic and barbecue at Owatonna. June 25, the cornerstone of St. Joseph's Catholic Church of Owatonna was laid by the Right Rev. J. B. Cotter, Bishop of Winona. July 6, Rev. J. C. Ogle, pastor of the Methodist Church at Owatonna, and editor of a scholarly history of Steele county, died the day after being stricken in the pulpit by paralysis. He was born in Canton, Stark county, Ohio, in 1830, and came to Owatonna in 1886. July 4, Gottlieb Kreisel died at Deerfield, at the age of sixty years. He came to Meriden in 1866 and moved to Deerfield in 1874. July 13, the county commissioners levied the sum of \$9,000 on taxable property for court-house purposes. July 6, W. A. Dynes was elected mayor of Owatonna, to succeed Dr. E. M. Morehouse, deceased. August 15, Walter Stebbins died at Owatonna. He came to Steele county in 1858, and moved from his farm to Owatonna in 1886. He was deacon in the Baptist Church. September 3-5, the Steele county fair was a great success. September 7, the county commissioners authorized the chairman and county auditor to issue court-house bonds to the sum of \$30,000. October 28, these bonds were sold to the Farmers and Mechanics'

Savings Bank, Minneapolis, at par value. November 23, George W. Kinyon, a farmer of Owatonna township, was shot in the face by his hired man, Charles Trowe, who then shot himself. Neither wound was fatal. Trowe was arrested. December 1, the Hastings & Diment flour mill at Owatonna was burned to the ground, entailing a loss of \$30,000; no insurance. Seventeen men were thrown out of employment. December 2, E. T. Erickson died at Havana. He was born in Norway in 1854, and came to Havana in 1864. He served as town clerk and postmaster at Havana. December 6, the annual meeting of the Steele County Bible Society was held at the Congregational Church in Owatonna. December 18, the third annual show of the Steele County Poultry Association was held at Owatonna. December 30, Prof. A. C. Gutterson died at Owatonna, at the age of sixty years. He came to Owatonna in 1866, exerted a wide influence on the musical life of the community, and served seventeen years as cashier of the Farmers' National Bank. December 24, Mrs. A. W. Adams died at Clinton Falls. She was born in Goshen, Mass., in 1833, was married in 1854, and came to Clinton Falls the same year.

**1892.** February 2, the city council of Owatonna voted that the sewers on Cedar, Main and Broadway be built during the ensuing season. February 20, Sarah A. Stowers, wife of S. H. Stowers, died at Owatonna, aged forty-eight years. March 25, new flouring mill of Hastings, Diment & Co., at Owatonna, was reported as completed and running, with a capacity of 250 barrels a day. March 23, the Owatonna city council accepted the bid of the Cleifton Brothers to put in sewers on Cedar, Broadway and Main, at a cost of \$8,592.90. March 28, the State Teachers' Institute for Steele county was held. June 3, the announcement was made that George A. Pillsbury would give a music hall to Pillsbury Academy, cost to be about \$18,000. June 15, a destructive wind and electrical storm passed over the towns of Berlin, Summit and Blooming Prairie. The Norwegian Church in Berlin was blown to pieces and the school house on the corner of Higbie's farm was picked up and carried a quarter of a mile. July 4, a big celebration was held at Owatonna, under the auspices of the firemen. July 11, the county commissioners met and levied \$23,000 tax on Steele county property for the ensuing year. August 31, the station of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway burned at Blooming Prairie, entailing a loss of about \$1,500. September 8, Mrs. C. S. Crandall died at Owatonna, at the age of sixty years, having lived in Owatonna about thirty-five years. October 7, Mrs. Chas. H. Church died at Owatonna. She was born in Plymouth county, Massachusetts, and came to Owatonna with her husband in 1867. September 10, Merritt Webb died at Owatonna. He was born in Jefferson county, New York, in 1828.



and came to Steele county in 1864. September 22-24, the annual Steele county fair was held at Owatonna. November 1, John C. Burke, county auditor, died at Owatonna, at the age of thirty-two years. November 18, Judge Amos Coggs well died at Owatonna. He was born in 1825, and came to Steele county in 1856. He was a member of the constitutional convention of 1857, speaker of the state legislature in 1860, state senator from 1872 to 1873, and probate judge for one year. November 21, a big Democratic celebration was held in Owatonna, in honor of the election of Grover Cleveland as President of the United States. November 23, William Ellis died at Havana. He was born on the water, son of Captain and Sarah Ellis, and came to Steele county in 1856. December 26, fire destroyed the Music Hall at Pillsbury Academy. The building was in the progress of construction, and the loss of \$10,000 fell on the contractor.

1893. January 11, J. L. Harrington, M. D., died at Owatonna. He was born in Jamaica, Vt., in 1840, and came to Owatonna in 1881. February 1, the residence of Hon. W. R. Kinyon at Owatonna was burned to the ground. Most of the furniture was saved. February 3, the first church ever erected in the town of Summit was nearing completion. It was of the Danish Lutheran denomination. February 18, Mrs. Marendra Grandprey, wife of Joseph Grandprey, died at Meriden. She was born in Alleghany county, New Hampshire, in 1823, and came to Steele county in 1857. March 1, Mrs. J. Q. Ellis died at Owatonna. She was born in Oxford county, Maine, in 1831, and came to Steele county in 1868. March 27-31, the State Teachers' Institute for Steele county met at Owatonna. April 13, John Cottier died. He was born on the Isle of Man in 1826, and came to Owatonna in 1865. May 2, 1893, the city council of Owatonna authorized an extension of South Oak street for 120 rods, to intersect the Zelinski road. May 9, Mrs. Catherine Campbell Donaldson died at Owatonna. She was born in Argyle, Washington county, N. Y., in 1829, and came to Owatonna with her family in 1862. She was the wife of John Donaldson. June 12, 1893, William J. Thompson died at Owatonna. He was born in Ireland in 1813, came to Somerset township in 1870 and to Owatonna in 1888. June 17, the Berlin and Summit Creamery carried off highest honors for dairy products at the World's Fair, Chicago. June 20, the Owatonna city council authorized the park committee to purchase a suitable fountain for Central Park, at a cost not to exceed \$300. June 23, Richard Evans died at Owatonna, at the age of seventy-six years. July 4, the old settlers of Steele county held their annual picnic at Mineral Springs Park at Owatonna. July 12, E. Y. Hunewill died at Owatonna. He was born in Caritunk, Me., in 1822, and came to Owatonna in 1856. September 18, the

Columbia Hotel, on West Broadway, was opened by Clay & Bowen. September 14, 16, the Steele county fair at Owatonna proved a great success. October 11, Seth Chase died at Owatonna, at the age of ninety-two years. He came to Steele county in 1865 and at the time of his death he was the oldest man in the county. October 4, the Seventh Day Adventists held a big camp meeting at Owatonna. November 4, a fire in Aurora destroyed the store of W. F. Linse. The postoffice, which was located in the store, was also destroyed. The total loss was \$3,000. December 1, the county commissioners appointed H. B. Chambers as overseer of the poor farm. December 8, Henry F. Hahn died. He was born in Hanover, Germany, and came to Lemond in 1857. December 19, Emily Stanley Tryon, wife of C. Tryon, died at Owatonna, at the age of sixty-two years. December 27, William Clark McGowan died at Owatonna. He was born at Alburgh, Vt., December 25, 1815, and came to Owatonna in 1869.

1894. January 10, George H. Herrick died at Owatonna. He was born in Chautauqua county, New York, April 28, 1841, and came to Minnesota as a youth, settling near Le Sueur. He served in the Civil War, came to Owatonna in 1888, purchased an interest in the drug store of William Gausewitz, and later became sole owner. He was prominent in the Baptist Church, and was one of the trustees of Pillsbury Academy. January 13, Henry Schultz died at Owatonna. He was born in Germany, came to Steele county in 1861, and to Owatonna in 1882. January 13, John Mesche died at Rice Lake, at the age of fifty-two. January 15, Mrs. Thomas Welch died at her home in Summit. She was born in Ireland and had lived in Steele county twenty-eight years, attaining an age of eighty years. January 20, Aaron Backus died at Owatonna. He was born in Putnam, N. Y., and came to Owatonna in 1875. February 1, Luther Lane, one of the first settlers of Medford, died at the age of eighty-five. February 1, J. E. Buxton, for twenty-nine years a resident of Owatonna, died at Deland, Fla. He was born in New York, August 5, 1823, and came to Owatonna in 1865. His business was that of farm machinery. March 16, W. F. Linse, postmaster and storekeeper at Aurora Station, died. He was born in Germany, March 21. James Morton, for thirty-two years a Steele county blacksmith, died at Owatonna. March 27, Joseph Ingraham, father of Prof. J. L. Ingraham, died in Owatonna, at the age of seventy-eight years. April 2, Lorenzo Green, the pioneer, died at Owatonna. He was born in New York state and came to Steele county in 1856. April 14, A. J. Truesdell, editor of the Owatonna "Journal," died, at the age of thirty years. April 23, a Democratic club was organized in Owatonna. April 28, the Medford Co-operative

Creamery Association was organized. June 18, Mrs. Abigail Heath, who came to Minnesota in 1856, died at Medford, at the age of seventy-six. June 18, the annual encampment of the Cannon Valley G. A. R. was held at Owatonna. June 20, the roundhouse of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway at Owatonna was entirely destroyed by fire, entailing a loss of \$1,000. June 26, Peter McCrady, for many years a justice of the peace, died at Aurora, at the age of eighty-eight years. June 27, the seventh annual convention of the W. C. T. U., district No. 2, was held at the Owatonna Methodist Church. July 4, another big celebration was held at Owatonna. June 24, Mary, the wife of Charles Green, died at Owatonna. She was born in Nobles county, Indiana, in 1852, and came to Owatonna in 1884. July 29, Gordan G. Head died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. R. G. Nelson, in Owatonna, at the age of seventy-two years. He was born in Vermont in 1822 and came to Owatonna in 1884. August 2, the citizens of Owatonna agreed to boycott the Northwestern Railway unless a safe crossing was put in at North Oak street. August 5, Louis K. Johnson died. He was born in Norway and came to Havana township in 1856. August 15, Mrs. G. W. Chesley died at Owatonna, at the age of sixty-two years. August 16, the Owatonna city council reached an agreement with the Northwestern Railway in regard to the North Oak street crossing. The railway agreed to put in a bridge, and the city agreed to attend to the street grading. August 21, Esther L. Holmes, a prominent member of the Baptist Church, died at Owatonna. She was born in New York state and came to Owatonna in 1875. August 23, Mary A. Gilman died at Medford, at the age of seventy-six years. September 2, Mrs. Anton Schultdt died at Meriden, at the age of sixty-four. She was born in Germany and came to Meriden township in 1856. September 6, the city council of Owatonna appropriated \$500 for the benefit of the sufferers from the Hinckley fire. September 6-8, the Steele county fair was held at Owatonna. September 16, the barn and outbuildings of Michael Ebeling, at Meriden township, were destroyed by fire. September 23, Philo Sawyer died in Berlin township, at the age of sixty-four. October 9, Mrs. George E. Peck died. She was born in 1846 and married in 1863. November 2, Judge Lorenzo Hazen died at Owatonna. He was born in New York state. He came to Medford at an early date and to Owatonna in 1877. He was judge of probate and prominent in politics. November 24, Fred Kruckelberg died at Aurora, at the age of sixty-three. He was born in Germany and settled in Aurora in 1856. November 28, Ludwig Milbradt died at Owatonna. He came to Steele county in 1866, and to Owatonna in 1886. December 8, Mrs. E. H. S. Dartt died at Owatonna. She



was born in England, August 25, 1843, came to America while an infant, and married E. H. S. Dartt November 24, 1876. December 11-13, the seventh annual convention of the Minnesota State Dairymen's Association was held at Owatonna. December 17, the Owatonna board of education was authorized to issue bonds to the amount of \$8,000 to build a four-room school house in the Second ward.

1895. January 11, the Home Rule House burned to the ground at Owatonna, in the early morning, the loss being over \$15,000. The ground dimensions covered five blocks. February 16, Henry M. Steele died at Merton. He was born in England in 1828, and came to Steele county in 1858, becoming a prominent citizen. February 23, Mrs. James Cotter died at Havana. She was born in Lebanon, N. Y., in 1818, and came to Steele county in 1865. March 9, two barns belonging to O. L. Knapp, at Clinton Falls, were burned, entailing a loss of \$1,500. March 20, the Southern Minnesota B. Y. P. U. held a big rally at the Owatonna Baptist Church. March 22, the Riverside roller mills burned in the early morning, entailing a loss of \$14,000. April 2-5, the Steele County Teachers' Institute was held at Owatonna. April 9, Mrs. Phœbe Burch died at Owatonna. She was born in Cooperstown, N. Y., in 1810, and came to Owatonna in 1874. April 14, Mrs. Mary A. Selleck, wife of Alson Selleck, died at Owatonna. She was born in New York state, and came to Owatonna in 1855. May 31, a meeting of the citizens of Owatonna was held to consider the question of a public library. An offer of \$10,000 for this purpose was received from Mrs. E. Y. Hunewill. June 17, the annual session of the Eighth District Lodge, I. O. G. T., was held in Berlin. July 4, another big celebration was held under the auspices of the Owatonna firemen. July 19, C. H. Church, one of the first settlers of Steele county, and a resident of Owatonna, died in South Dakota, at the age of sixty-seven years. August 19, fire destroyed the Winona lumber yard and L. D. Holden's cooper shop at Owatonna, the loss being about \$6,000. August 29-31, the Steele county fair at Owatonna met with much success. October 11, a horseless vehicle invention by D. J. Ames and Frank La Bare was made public. October 24, John Shea died at Owatonna. He was born in Joliet, Ill., in 1839, and came to Berlin township in 1856. He was mayor of Owatonna and served with the First Minnesota Mounted Rangers during the Indian war. October 31, a session of the State Board of Charities and Corrections was held at the State school in Owatonna. October 23-30, a religious revival was experienced in Owatonna. December 10, John Widrick died in Havana. He was born in New York state in 1828, came to Steele county in 1861, and served in the Civil War.

**1896.** James Cotter died at Havana, at the age of eighty-six. He was born in New York state in 1810, and was among the early pioneers of Steele county. January 10, Mrs. Mary Kenyon, an early settler, died at Owatonna. February 4, Hon. Harvey Hull Johnson died at Owatonna. His biography appears elsewhere. February 5, Philo Bliss died at Owatonna. He was born in New York state, and came to Owatonna in 1858. He engaged in the book and stationery business, and was a prominent member of the Baptist Church. March 7, fire destroyed Fisher's laundry and other buildings, the loss being about \$5,000. March 18, David D. Howe died at Owatonna. He came to Owatonna in 1873, and was a prominent member of the I. O. O. F. May 8, the Farmers' Elevator Company at Owatonna was organized. June 6, the annual banquet of the G. A. R. veterans of Company G, First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, was held at Owatonna. July 2, the corner-stone of the C. S. P. S. Hall, on North Cedar street, was laid with appropriate ceremonies at Owatonna. July 4, the celebration at Owatonna was under the auspices of the Elk Bicycle Association. August 13, the Berlin and Summit Creamery was burned to the ground, entailing a loss of about \$5,000. September 16-18, the Steele county fair was held at Owatonna under the auspices of the Steele County Agricultural Society. October 7, the Clinton Falls mill was destroyed by fire, entailing a loss of over \$9,000. November 13, Mrs. H. H. Rosebrock died at Owatonna. She was born in Germany, married H. H. Rosebrock in 1864, and came to Owatonna the following year. December 15, the city council passed a resolution authorizing the establishment of a public library under the terms of the bequest of Elizabeth C. Hunewill.

**1897.** January 4, Sanford Kinney died at Owatonna. He was born in Vermont in 1836 and came to Steele county in 1862. February 14, the fifth annual convention of the National Butter-makers' Association was held at Owatonna, with exhibits from every state in the Union. March 26, Joseph Kiesel, who came to Owatonna in 1858, died at his home in that city. He was born in Germany in 1825. May 2, fire broke out in the general merchandise store of Twiford, Niles & Co., of Owatonna, entailing a loss of about \$6,000. May 14, David Lindersmith died at Clinton Falls, at the age of seventy-nine years. He came to Steele county in 1855, and one year later was elected sheriff. March 31, Emily A., wife of Edgar Cady, died at Merton. She was born in New York state in 1819, and came to Steele county in 1859. July 4, the Steele County Agricultural Association had charge of the celebration at Owatonna. August 7, Harvey Jones died at Owatonna, at the age of fifty-eight years. He was born in Pennsylvania. August 11, fire occurred in the store of Evans

& Ogden at Owatonna, entailing a loss of about \$13,000. August 26-28, the annual fair of the Steele County Agricultural Society was held at Owatonna. September 6, Joseph M. Clark was murdered by Lee Hough. Clark was found in his covered wagon with his head chopped open by an axe, and died at evening. Hough, one of his companions was missing, together with \$105 and a watch owned by the murdered man. September 17, the city council of Owatonna empowered the finance committee to purchase the Graham corner for the site of a library, at a cost of \$3,000. October 4, Cyrus Tryon died at Owatonna, at the age of sixty-six years. He was born in Cumberland, Me., and came to Owatonna in 1882. October 7, Frank Pirkle died in Deerfield township. He was born in Germany in 1825 and came to Steele county in 1864. October 9, Lee Hough, murderer of Joseph M. Clark, was arrested at Guthrie, Ky., and brought back to Owatonna, where he confessed his crime. October 28, the eleventh annual state convention of the Minnesota Y. P. S. C. E. was held at Owatonna. November 7, the Danish Lutheran Evangelical Church, on Rose street, Owatonna, was dedicated by Rev. G. B. Christiansen, president of the United Danish Evangelical Church of America. November 28, the Deerfield German Lutheran Church was dedicated, Rev. F. W. Klein, of Owatonna, conducting the ceremony. December 7, the district court, in session at Owatonna, sentenced Lee Hough to life imprisonment for the murder of Joseph Clark.

1898. January 29, Nathaniel Winship, the pioneer hotel-keeper, died at Owatonna, at the age of seventy-five years. He was born in Vermont in 1822, and came to Steele county in 1855. February 1, the city council of Owatonna adopted a resolution authorizing the issue of \$10,000 bonds for the public library, the question to be submitted to the voters, in March. March 2, the library board met at Owatonna and adopted rules and by-laws. April 25, a big mass meeting was held to discuss the Spanish-American War. Fifty-two volunteers entered the National Reserves. May 7, Dewey's victory was appropriately celebrated. June 24, the plat of Dartt's addition was accepted by the Owatonna city council. July 2, Otis Lord died at Owatonna, at the age of seventy-six years. He was born in Vermont and came to Owatonna in 1866. July 4, a big celebration was held at Owatonna, and the news of Sampson's victory aroused much enthusiasm. July 30, the Washington Tool Company was organized at Owatonna, with a capital stock of \$20,00. August 4, death removed one of the county's most prominent citizens, when J. B. Soper passed away, at the age of eighty-five years. He was born in Vermont, November 26, 1813, and married Louisa Arnold in 1836. He came to Steele county in 1862 and settled on a farm

in Clinton Falls, coming to Owatonna in 1867. He was a successful wheat buyer, and amassed a considerable fortune. September 1-3, the tenth annual fair of the Steele County Agricultural Society was held at Owatonna. September 6, the city council of Owatonna voted to put in the Rose street bridge. November 25, Capt. C. H. Stearns, of Owatonna, was elected major of the Third Battalion of the Fourth Regiment, Minnesota National Guard. December 17, Mrs. Almira S. Blood died at Owatonna. She was born in New Hampshire in 1819 and in 1851 married Dr. Solomon Blood, who served as a surgeon in the Civil War. They came to Owatonna after the war and the doctor continued in practice until his death, in 1883. December 26, George L. Chambers died at Havana. He was born in Belfast, Ireland, in 1824, and settled in Steele county in 1860.

1899. January 3, H. H. Rosebrock died at Owatonna. He was born in Germany in 1835, came to Owatonna in 1865, and served two terms in the legislature. January 11, Mrs. Margaret Stafford Harsha died at Owatonna. She was born in Argyle, N. Y., in 1835, a daughter of Judge N. M. Donaldson. She came to Owatonna in 1856. January 16-17, the State Farmers' Institute was held at the Owatonna court house, with a large attendance from all over the county. February 2, Hugh Mooney died at Owatonna. He was born in Ireland, came to Steele county in 1856, settled in Merton, and then came to Owatonna in 1893. February 6, the library board met at Owatonna and awarded the contract for a building to Hammel Brothers & Anderson, for \$18,157. February 15 the Twiss block on Broadway, Owatonna, was partially destroyed by fire, the total loss being about \$5,000. April 12, Anton Schmanski died at Meriden. He was born in Poland in 1818, and came to Steele county in 1875. May 7, Hon. Hector M. Hastings died at Owatonna. He was born in 1835, came to Steele county in 1863, just after serving in the Indian war of 1862. He was the owner and founder of the Hastings Milling Company. He also served as state senator. May 11, Mrs. William Thompson died at Owatonna. She was born in Pennsylvania in 1810 and came to Steele county in 1856. May 12, the Owatonna city council decided to submit to the voters the question of issuing \$10,000 additional bonds for the library. May 16, Mrs. Mary Parsons died at Medford. She was born in England in 1825 and came to Steele county in 1856. July 4, the Steele County Agricultural Association had charge of a big celebration at Owatonna. July 18, the Owatonna city council awarded a contract for the Rose street bridge over the Straight river to the Gillette-Herzog Manufacturing Company, of Minneapolis. July 21, a committee of citizens started an agitation toward establishing a city hospital in Owatonna. September 16,



Mrs. Abbie Richmond Holt died at Owatonna. She was born in New York in 1826 and came to Owatonna in 1867. September 18-20, the Steele county fair was held at Owatonna. October 2, Hon. Elihu Miles Burnham, of Blooming Prairie, died, at the age of seventy-seven years. He was born in New York state in 1822, and came to Steele county in 1894. October 21, St. John's German Lutheran Church was dedicated at Owatonna, in the presence of over a thousand people. November 8-9, the sixth annual convention of the Minnesota State Buttermakers' Association was held at Owatonna. December 29, E. Scannel died at Owatonna. He was born in New York state in 1831 and came to Owatonna in 1858. December 30, some old wooden buildings on Bridge street in Owatonna were burned, entailing a loss of about \$3,000.

1900. January 5, the city council granted a franchise to the Light, Heat and Power Company of Owatonna to erect poles and wires and also to build a gas plant in the city. January 18, J. A. Opplinger died at Owatonna. He was born in Switzerland in 1834, came to Owatonna in 1861, and served as alderman and mayor of the city. February 20, the city council of Owatonna decided to submit to the voters the question of issuing \$10,000 bonds for the city hospital. February 22, the new public library was opened at Owatonna. The address was delivered by C. K. Bennett, in the absence of James W. Ford, the president of the board. April 20, the first hospital board organized at Owatonna and elected S. R. Nelson chairman and George W. Peachy secretary. May 9, the Owatonna hospital board purchased the Opplinger residence and two acres for a hospital, at a cost of \$6,500. May 10, the residence of Mrs. Elizabeth Eichholzen burned at Owatonna. June 19-21, the annual meeting of the Minnesota State Pharmaceutical Association was held at Owatonna. June 15, the Owatonna city council sold the city hospital bonds to the First National bank of Owatonna for \$10,300. June 8, the barn of E. Randall at Summit was burned with twenty tons of hay. July 13, the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railroad came through Steele county from Albert Lea to Owatonna. July 15, the barn of J. F. Lonergan was burned at Berlin. July 15, John N. Travis died at Owatonna. He was born in New London, Conn., in 1826, and came to Minnesota in 1865. September 12-14, the annual county fair was held at Owatonna. September 26, the Forty-sixth annual session of the Minnesota conference of the Methodist Episcopal church was held in the Methodist church at Owatonna, Bishop John M. Walden, of Cincinnati, presiding. October 2, William Jennings Bryan spoke at Owatonna on his campaign tour.

1901. January 5, the Owatonna City hospital was opened

for patients. February 4, the Washington Tool Company, of Owatonna, was reorganized, and the capital stock increased to \$50,000. February 29, Mrs. Adaline Wheelock, wife of Hon. L. L. Wheelock, died at Owatonna. She was born February 24, 1845, near Pleasant Hill, Indiana, and was married July 24, 1871. She was formerly an Owatonna school teacher. April 12, the Owatonna city council let a contract to W. J. Wood to build an addition to the high school building. The council also voted \$625.00 for the purchase of the site of the West Side school house. April 17, Connor's store at the corner of Cedar and Vine streets, Owatonna, was destroyed by fire entailing a loss of \$55,000. Neighboring buildings were also damaged. May 20, the Clinton Falls Nursery Company was incorporated with a capital stock of \$50,000. June 25, Mrs. Mary Virtue, wife of John Virtue, died in Clinton Falls township. She was born in Ireland in 1836, and came to Steele county in 1859. She was the mother of Leonard J. Virtue. July 4, the celebration under the auspices of the Elk Bicycle Association at Owatonna was saddened by an accident in which S. L. Manhart had his right hand blown off. July 8, Ellendale was recognized as a village by the county commissioners and the first election authorized. July 16, the city council of Owatonna accepted a bequest from Hon. H. H. Rosebrock, of \$5,000 for the establishment of the city kindergarten. August 31, the thirteenth annual fair under the auspices of the Steele county Agricultural Association was held at Owatonna. October 12-15, the Women's Foreign Missionary Society of Minnesota and the two Dakotas held its annual convention at the Methodist church at Owatonna. October 15-17, the annual convention of the State Federation of Women's Clubs was held at Owatonna. December 8, Hon. Samuel Barlow Williams died at Owatonna. He was born in South Hampton, Mass., June 26, 1822, and came to Steele county in the sixties. He lived for a time in Mower county, but returned to Steele county in the early eighties and lived on a farm in the northern part of Owatonna township up to within a short time of his death. He was a grain and lumber dealer and served in the legislature in 1879. December 17, the Sacred Heart Catholic church at Owatonna burned to the ground. December 30, Mathilda E. (Robinson), wife of William Gamble, died at Owatonna. She was born in Canada in 1839, and settled on a farm in Lemond township in 1866.

**1902.** January 3, the old H. R. Moore building, occupied by the dry goods store of Charles L. Gray, was almost destroyed by fire. Stock damaged to the amount of \$26,000 and adjoining property, as well as the offices in the upper floor were injured. The total loss was about \$30,000. January 27, the residence of

Henry Koch, at Owatonna, was burned, the loss being about \$2,000. February 12, Judge Buckham handed down a decision **unfavorable to the city** in the case of the City of Owatonna vs. Rosebrock in the Rosebrock \$5,000 Kindergarten bequest case. April 10, the C. W. Hadley building, occupied by J. A. Soper, electrical and plumbing supplies, was damaged by fire entailing a loss of \$8,000. May 17, the Norwegian Independence day was celebrated with appropriate ceremonies at Ellendale. June 11, the Owatonna Woodmen entertained the Woodmen of the state. Governor Van Sant and Senator P. McGovern made speeches. June 17, Ellendale voted \$5,000 school bonds. June 18, the State Universalists held a big celebration at Owatonna. July 5, a big wind storm did considerable damage to the property in Steele county. July 14, the Methodist church at Ellendale was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies. July 15, another wind storm visited the county. July 22, Ellendale voted \$6,000 bonds for water works. July 25, a rainstorm did considerable damage throughout the county. August 18, Ellendale people held a big Harvest festival celebration. August 30, a Northwestern passenger train was blown from the tracks by a cyclone, four miles west of Owatonna. Several passengers were killed and many injured. October 5, Charles Adsit died at Owatonna. He was born in Oneida county, New York, April 29, 1833, and came to Aurora township in 1856, being one of the first party to arrive there. In the fall of 1895 he retired and came to Owatonna. October 12-17, the Baptist state convention was held at Owatonna. October 17, Charles Schoen, a wagonmaker, died at Owatonna, at the age of 74 years. He was born in Prussia, and came to Owatonna in 1862. October 20, Mrs. Elizabeth M. Schaefer died in Owatonna at the age of 79 years. She was born in Germany and lived in Owatonna about twenty years. October 25, Mrs. Nathaniel Winship, formerly Emily P. Moulton, died at Owatonna. She was born in Cabot, Vermont, in 1833, and was married in 1851. She and her husband came to Owatonna in 1855 and opened the first hotel. Her husband died in 1898.

1903. January 23, the city of Owatonna won its suit against Carl J. H. Rosebrock and secured the \$5,000 left by his father, H. H. Rosebrock, for kindergarten purposes. January 31, E. H. S. Dartt died at Owatonna. He was born in Vermont in 1824 and came to Owatonna in 1869. He was prominent as a horticulturist and originated several varieties of apples. February 17, the county commissioners met and awarded the jail contract to Hammel Brothers & Anderson, the bid being \$3,238. Harry Herman Krier, of Owatonna, was murdered by Henry and Charles Nelson and William Sutton and robbed of \$76, while on



his way to the home of Jacob Glaeser to pay his rent. May 15, it was reported that dogs had killed eight deer in the state school park since January 1. May 20, the St. Hyacinth Catholic church, of Owatonna, was dedicated by Bishop Joseph B. Potter, of Winona. May 21, the Sacred Heart Catholic church was dedicated at Owatonna by Bishop Joseph B. Potter, of Winona. June 3-6, a big street fair and carnival was held at Owatonna under the auspices of the Owatonna Fire department. June 24, Charles and Henry Nelson, murderers of H. Krier, were sentenced to be hanged. William Sutton was sentenced to life imprisonment. July 1, Nancy R. Twiford, wife of Dr. W. H. Twiford, died at Owatonna. She was born in Ohio in 1825 and came to Steele county in 1865. July 20, Orlando Linder-smith died at Clinton Falls. He was born in Ohio in 1843 and came to Steele county in 1855. July 6-August 1, the Summer Training school for teachers was held at Owatonna with great success. August 4, the farmers organized the Steele Center Rural Telephone Company to conduct a telephone line through the townships of Owatonna, Somerset and Summit. October 15-17, the Eleventh Annual meeting of the Minnesota State Library Association was held in Owatonna. October 30, City Attorney C. J. O'Brien died at Owatonna. He was born near Faribault, Minn., and came to Owatonna in 1899. Thomas Stockwell died at Owatonna. He was born in England, in 1830, and came to Steele county in 1877.

**1904.** Willis E. Dunbar, a former member of the state legislature, died at Owatonna at the age of 67 years. January 16, Connor's New Store Company, which conducted at Owatonna the largest retail store in the county, was adjudged bankrupt. January 25, the main building of the State public school at Owatonna was gutted by fire, the loss being about \$75,000. That the damage was not greater was due to the heroic work of the firemen. February 2, the city council of Owatonna decided to submit to the voters the question of issuing \$15,000 bonds for water works. February 5-6, the Minnesota State Farmers' Institute was held at Owatonna. February 8, Cyrenus B. Pettie died at Blooming Prairie. He was born in New York state in 1834 and came to Steele county in 1856. February 25, the store of E. C. Duncan at Havana was burned to the ground entailing a loss of about \$6,000. February 23, the Steele County Buttermakers' Association met at Owatonna with about 300 in attendance. April 7, County Commissioner M. H. Coggins died at Aurora. He was born in Wisconsin in 1861 and came to Steele county in 1869. April 19, the city council of Owatonna voted to pave Cedar street from Broadway to Rose. May 3, the Owatonna Canning factory was started for the purpose of canning

sweetcorn. June 7, the city council of Owatonna voted to open up a new roadway to the mineral springs along Maple creek. July 4, a big celebration was held at Owatonna with over 20,000 persons in attendance. August 8, Hon. Mark H. Dunnell died at Owatonna. He was born in Maine in 1823, and came to Owatonna in 1867, serving with distinction in the state legislature and in congress. August 31, Thomas R. Symes, of Blooming Prairie committed suicide by hanging. September 21, John Kasper, of Somerset, committed suicide by shooting himself in the head with a shot gun. He was born in Havana in 1867. December 9, the state board of health notified the city council of Owatonna that the city must put septic sewer tanks in the west side sewer or risk a condemnation of the sewer there.

1905. January 24, Judge Buckham appointed a charter commission for the city of Owatonna as follows:—Carl K. Bennett, Thomas E. Cashman, Charles S. Crandall, James M. Diment, Louis B. Fenner, John L. Gibbs, William Gausewitz, Patrick J. Kiernan, Harlan E. Leach, William F. Sawyer, Wesley A. Sperry, Herman Schmidt, Albert L. Sperry, John Smith and Lewis L. Wheelock. March 10-11, the Seventh annual convention of the South central Minnesota Teachers' Association met at Owatonna. March 14, the Steele County Farmers' Institute was held at Ellendale. April 11, the board of education of the city of Owatonna was authorized by a special election of school district No. 1, of Owatonna, to issue \$8,000 bonds to build a modern school house in the fourth ward. April 25-27, the Forty-seventh annual convention of the Minnesota Sunday School Association was held in Owatonna. May 12, Sheriff F. C. Chambers shot and killed Ivan Tomas, a robber, who was seeking to escape arrest. The coroner's jury exonerated the sheriff. June 19, Mrs. Charles Pegg died at Owatonna. She was born in Meriden township in 1856 and was married in 1876. July 3, the Steele county training school for teachers opened for a four weeks' course. July 6, the city council of Owatonna decided to submit to the voters on September 19, the question of issuing \$15,000 bonds for a new city hall. July 9, Silas Anderson died at Owatonna. He was born in New York state in 1832 and came to Owatonna in 1864. July 20, Hon. B. S. Cook committed suicide by shooting himself through the head with a rifle. At one time he was mayor of Owatonna. August 12, Wilda Johnson, of Havana, was bound over to appear in the district court on the charge of poisoning J. L. Johnson's well with paris green. September 12, August Voelker, of Owatonna, died. He was born in Germany in 1841 and came to Steele county in 1884. September 20, the barn of Ray Lindersmith was destroyed by fire at Clinton Falls, entailing a loss of \$4,000.

September 26, at a special election the voters of Owatonna authorized the city council to issue \$15,000 bonds for a new city and fire hall. The vote stood 323 in favor and 208 against. October 12, the county commissioners decided to issue bonds to the amount of \$3,500 for the purpose of constructing judicial ditch No. 2. November 12, the new Universalist church was dedicated at Owatonna, free from debt. The sermon was delivered by Dr. Fisher, of Galesburg, Ill. November 19, the store of Parrott & Smith burned to the ground at Owatonna, entailing a loss of about \$41,500. The loss to the hardware company was \$35,000, to Dr. Theo. Hatch, \$1,500; to Dr. C. H. Stearns, \$2,500, and to Yerke & Sweeney, \$1,500. Wilda Johnson, of Havana, was acquitted of poisoning the well of J. L. Johnson. December 20, Elling Largeson, died at Berlin township. He was born in Norway in 1824 and came to Steele county in 1876.

1906. A big meeting was held in the court house at Owatonna to consider the adoption of a new city charter. January 30, a special election held in the city of Owatonna to consider the new city charter resulted in its rejection by a vote of 200 for the charter and 581 against. February 23, the district court decided in the case of James Peachey vs. the city of Owatonna, that the election held to vote on the \$15,000 bond issue for the new city and fire hall was defective and illegal. March 28, the Owatonna Metropolitan opera house caught fire, but was saved by the fire department. The damage was covered by \$11,000 insurance. April 4, Governor John A. Johnson visited the state public school, and expressed his satisfaction with the institution. April 11, Patrick Brennan died at Owatonna. He was born at Waterford, Ireland, in 1835 and came to Owatonna in 1866. June 18, at a special meeting of the hospital board, the contract for a new addition to the hospital was awarded to the Hammel Brothers & Anderson, the bid being \$7,545. June 19-21, the forty-first annual convention of the Minnesota Universalists was held at Owatonna. July 9-14, a big mid-summer carnival was held at Owatonna. July 17, the city council awarded the contract for building the new city hall to Hammel Brothers & Anderson, bonds to the amount of \$15,000 having been authorized at the election in March. The bid was \$19,643. July 24, fire destroyed a barn owned by W. S. Reynolds at Owatonna. Two other barns and the Winship hotel were damaged. July 29, Mrs. Maria Gross, the first centenarian in Steele county reached her hundredth birthday at her home in Owatonna. August 14, the city council of Owatonna granted a new gas franchise to the Owatonna Gas, Electric and Heating Company, to run for twenty years. August 21, Captain L. G. Nelson died at Owatonna. He was born in Norway, was captain during the Civil

war and came to Steele county in 1893. August 26, Henry M. LaBare died at Owatonna at the age of 71 years. He was one of the older settlers of the city. September 8, the corner stone was laid for the new city and fire hall at Owatonna, Judge Littleton being the chief orator. Chief Twiford read a history of the department. September 13-15, a big street fair was held at Owatonna, with some excellent agricultural exhibits. September 25, Governor Johnson spoke in Owatonna at a big Democratic political meeting. September 28, a big street fair was held at Ellendale, with about 4,000 in attendance. November 6, the new Firemen's hall was opened at Owatonna with a big ball. December 3, Judge B. F. Hood, of the municipal court, died at Owatonna. December 22, John Schweiso died in Summit township. He was born in Germany in 1818, and came to Steele county as a young man. December 28, the county commissioners set off a new school district known as district No. 90 in Berlin township. December 30, Emma Chambers died at Havana. She was born in 1842, in New York state, and came to Havana township in 1857. Death was the result of an accident in falling down stairs.

1907. January 18, William H. Burdict died at Owatonna. He was born near Burlington, Vt., in 1834, and came to Owatonna in 1864. He was a carpenter and erected many of the older buildings in the city, including the old high school which was destroyed by fire, the First Methodist church, the pumping station and the old Hastings' mill. January 22-24, the State Dairymen's Association met at Owatonna. February 3, the store of Blume Brothers, general merchants, was burned to the ground at Bixby, entailing a loss of about \$5,000. February 7-10, the State Y. M. C. A. convention was held at the First Baptist church, Owatonna. March 9, J. D. Gordon died at Owatonna. He was born in New York state in 1823, came to Steele county in 1857 and settled on a farm near Beaver Lake. He came to Owatonna in 1880. March 14, the Blooming Prairie Farmers' elevator was destroyed by fire, entailing a loss of \$7,000. April 4, a big public meeting held at Owatonna favored the granting of a franchise to the Dan Patch Air line. A committee was appointed by Mayor Green to secure a right-of-way. April 26, the franchise offered the Dan Patch Air line was accepted by the company. June 1, Hon Lewis L. Wheelock, of the law firm of Wheelock & Sperry, died at Owatonna. His biography appears elsewhere. June 5, Samuel W. Farmer died at Owatonna. He was born in Redfield, N. Y., October 7, 1837, and came to Owatonna in 1857. He was a prominent member of the Methodist Church. June 26, the State Dairymen's Association held a picnic at Beaver Lake. July 4, a big county celebration was held at



Blooming Prairie. July 31, the Public Service Operating Company finished its gas plant and started supplying patrons. September 12-14, the Steele County Agricultural Society held its annual street fair at Owatonna. October 5, the Firmen's hall was opened and dedicated with a concert, ball and banquet. October 12, a festival was tendered the Junior Civic League by the Owatonna Civic League. December 24, O. M. Jones died in Havana township. He came to Steele county in 1857. December 27, Judge Buckham rendered a decision favoring the construction of the Crane creek ditch.

1908. Judge Jacob Newsalt died at Owatonna. He was born in Germany in 1838 and came to Owatonna in 1878. He served the city as municipal judge. January 24-29, the first show of the Owatonna North Star Poultry Association was held at Owatonna. February 8, Mrs. Amanda J. Munson Clefton died at Owatonna. She was born in Manchester, April 1, 1831, and was married in 1847 at Mukwonago, Wis. For the last fifteen years of her life she lived with her son, Claude J. February 20, Hon. S. T. Littleton died at Owatonna. His biography appears elsewhere. February 26, the county commissioners appropriated \$225 for the purpose of purchasing a piece of ordnance under the auspices of the G. A. R. for the court house grounds. March 31, Judge Buckham made a final order establishing the Crane creek ditch. The April term of the Supreme court reversed this decision. June 20, a wind, rain and hail storm did much damage in Ellendale and vicinity. June 21, Michael J. Toher died at Owatonna. He was born in Ireland in 1829 and came to Owatonna in 1866. He was a prominent railroad man, and ranked high in the Democratic party, serving as a member of the state committee at one time. He served as a member of the Owatonna city council and the Owatonna hospital board. During Cleveland's second administration he was postmaster at Owatonna. From 1868 to 1876 he was sheriff of Steele county. July 5 to 11, a street carnival was held at Owatonna under the auspices of the fire department. July 14, the National Farmers' bank moved into its new quarters, at Owatonna. August 6, the annual meeting of the Southern Minnesota Medical Association was held at Owatonna. September 7, the Owatonna Eagles held a labor picnic at Diment's park, Owatonna. September 8, the barn and outbuildings with a considerable amount of hay and grain of S. Szmanski, in Deerfield, were burned to the ground, entailing a loss of \$4,000. September 10-12, a street fair was held at Owatonna, under the auspices of the Steele county Agricultural Association. September 26, William H. Taft passed through Steele county and spoke a few words at Owatonna from the rear platform of his car. October 22, August H. C. Hanson, of Owatonna, was given a

Carnegie Bronze medal and \$2,000 for heroism in saving Bertie Borden and Hazel Shaw from drowning in Straight river. December 11, William H. Kelley died at Owatonna. His biography appears elsewhere.

1909. January 11, Ludwig C. Welk died at Owatonna. He was born in Germany in 1824 and came to Steele county in 1867. January 22-23, the Southern Minnesota Horticultural Society held its sixteenth annual meeting in Owatonna. January 26, Judge Buckham of the district court decided that the Creamery Package Company of Owatonna had violated the anti-trust laws of Minnesota. The company was therefore prohibited from doing business in the state of Minnesota. February 4, Frank Steele died in Berlin. He was born in Bunker Hill, Penn., in 1855 and was brought to Steele county by his parents when a small child. February 5, Judge Buckham rendered his decision in favor of the Crane creek ditch known as judicial ditch No. 1. March 17, Mrs. Zeda Marie Janssen died at the age of 84 years. She was born in Germany and came to Steele county in 1868. She took up her residence in Owatonna in 1885. March 20, Adolph Knobblack, Sr., committed suicide by hanging. He was born in Germany in 1831 and came to Steele county in 1861. March 28, Mr. and Mrs. Nels Nelson died in Havana. They came to Steele county in 1864. May 7, the Supreme court sustained Judge Buckham's decision ordering the construction of the Crane creek ditch. May 13, James A. Cotter died in Owatonna. He was born in Walworth county, Wis., in 1849, and came to Steele county in 1864. June 31, the third annual meeting and picnic of the Minnesota State Dairymen's Association was held at Beaver Lake in Berlin township. July 5, the Eagles were in charge of a celebration in Owatonna. August 12, the store of Frank J. Kubicek, of Summit, was struck by lightning and burned, causing a loss of \$2,000. August 13, Owatonna suffered from a severe storm. Bridges and many culverts were washed out. The house of Rev. Klein was struck by lightning. September 16-18, the Steele county fair was largely attended at Owatonna. September 29, a big street fair was held at Ellendale. October 8, the house of J. E. Cady was burned at Medford, loss about \$2,500. December 28, James Peachy died at Owatonna. He was born in England in 1823.

1910. This year the city council of Owatonna was largely occupied with the matter of the lighting franchise. This is treated elsewhere. January 5, George Coward died at Owatonna. He was born in England in 1840, and after living in various places in America came to Owatonna and engaged in the coal and wood business. March 14, Edward P. Morton died at Owatonna. He was born in Maine in 1845, served in the Civil

war and came to Owatonna in 1870, engaging as a contractor and house builder. April 26, Mrs. Clara Amelia, wife of S. J. Zamboni, died at Owatonna. She was born in Merton township in 1881 and engaged as a school teacher until her marriage in 1904. She was a prominent society and church worker. April 23, Andrew J. Thamert died in Owatonna at the age of 80 years. He was born in Prussia in 1829 and came to Steele county in 1876, locating in Owatonna in 1900. May 24, Judge Hosea F. Luce died at Owatonna. He came to Owatonna in 1877 and served a number of terms as municipal judge. May 30, was celebrated at Owatonna with appropriate services in charge of the G. A. R. June 20, Owatonna was designated as one of the cities to have a \$58,000 post-office building, in a bill passed by congress. June 31, the Farmers' elevator was burned to the ground entailing a loss of about \$20,000.



## CHAPTER XII.

### DAIRY INTERESTS.

**Early Attempts at Cheese Making.—Individual Ownership of Gathered Cream Plants.—Introduction of the Co-operative Creamery Plan.—Individual Ownership Vanishes.—Number of Creameries Multiply.—Importance of the Industry.—Volume of Output.—Conclusions.—By. Hon. John R. Morley.**

In giving a brief history of the creamery industry of Steele county it is necessary to go back to the early history of the county and thereby get a knowledge of the various attempts at factory manufacturing of dairy products. Everything goes to show that while the early attempts at factory manufacturing were fairly satisfactory nothing seemed to be on a permanent basis until the farmers built and operated their own creameries on the co-operative plan.

In 1869 a cheese factory was built at Owatonna by a gentleman from New York, who furnished the farmers, when desired, with money to purchase cows provided they delivered the milk to his factory; charging them 12 per cent on the money, and giving them time to get the proceeds from the sale of cheese, many farmers who had not the means to purchase cows took advantage of this opportunity to stock up with milch cows, and some went quite extensively into the cheese-making business. This was probably the first cheese factory built in Minnesota, and the first attempt at commercial dairying. It proved a good thing for the county as it demonstrated the fact that dairying could be profitably conducted in our state. Prior to this time it had been thought that wheat raising was the only branch of farming that could be profitably conducted in Minnesota. The results were very satisfactory and a good grade of cheese was made in paying quantities, notwithstanding the fact that wild grass was entirely relied upon both for pasture and hay. The factory was well patronized from long distances, and the results were quite satisfactory to the farmer from a financial standpoint. Heretofore the only outlet for the milk of the herd was the home making of dairy butter which was sold to the nearby grocer in exchange for groceries for family use. This factory was run successfully until some time during the later seventies when it was abandoned.

A cheese factory was built by Orlando Johnson at Medford in 1872. This was run profitably both to Mr. Johnson and the farmers in that vicinity until the year 1890, when the farmers conceived the idea of organizing a co-operative creamery and manufacturing their own product, following the example of other localities in the county farther south. Mr. Johnson at this time retired from the business, but not until he had planted the seeds of good dairying in that locality. This creamery is now running and has always been profitable.

Further attempts at cheese making were made at Owatonna in 1882 when Dr. L. L. Bennett, president of the Farmers' National bank, built a cheese factory at Owatonna. There was also built and put in operation in the spring of 1883 a gathered cream plant at Owatonna, which sent out wagons through the territory to obtain cream of the farmers, buying the cream by the inch. An inch of cream in a can of the desired size was supposed to equal a pound of butter fat. The cheese factory built by Mr. Bennett was subsequently sold to the Potter Lucas Company and run for a time as a combination butter and skim milk cheese plant. Potter Lucas Company installed a centrifugal cream separator and made both creamery butter and cheese. This plant was run on this plan until the winter of 1893. It had then become unprofitable on account of territory being restricted by the building of co-operative creameries in different directions from Owatonna.

In 1891 Pratt Creamery Association was organized and a creamery built at Pratt station. In 1892 the Golden Rule Creamery was built five miles west of Owatonna and in 1893 the Clinton Falls creamery was built at Clinton Falls five miles north of Owatonna.

In February of 1893 the farmers in the vicinity organized a co-operative association called the Farmers' Gilt Edge Creamery Association, and purchased the Potter Lucas plant, and commenced operations immediately on the co-operative plan. The first officers of this association were, president, E. P. Norton; secretary, Wm. T. Glasgow; treasurer, C. P. Sahler. It became necessary at this time for the gathered cream plant then owned by Mr. McKinstry, of Winnebago City, to discontinue business as the milk all went to the farmers' creamery. The run was very small and many predicted the enterprise would be a failure. But to the contrary, the Gilt Edge creamery is now the second largest creamery in the county, excelled only by the creamery at Blooming Prairie in amount of business, paying to the farmers upwards of \$6,000 per month for butter fat for the months of May and June, 1910. C. P. Sahler is the present president and manager, J. R. Morley, secretary, and R. A. Pratt, treasurer.

A fourth cheese factory was built on section 19, town of Merton, in 1890. Various attempts had been made to organize the farmers in this town and build a co-operative cheese factory prior to this time, but the attempts had been unsuccessful. In this year Messrs. J. Virtue, W. H. Wilson, D. E. Virtue and N. O. Partridge built the cheese factory, giving the patrons the privilege of buying it at any time. July 7, the building was completed and they commenced to make cheese. During that year 272,880 pounds of milk was received. In January, 1893, they changed it to a creamery, and during that year made 1,363 tubs of butter. In March, 1894, the farmers organized and bought the creamery and commenced operation on the co-operative plan. This was the last of individual ownership of creameries in Steele county. In the year 1909 it received 3,083,874 pounds of milk and made 130,000 pounds of butter. The first board of directors were N. O. Partridge, president; E. J. McGrath, vice president; F. C. Carlton, secretary; Alfred Wilson, treasurer. The Merton creamery is now making very fine butter and is one of the best in the state for quality.

So far we have given the history of the proprietary plants, and the way they were gradually absorbed by the farmers. And all due credit should be given these early pioneers in the dairy business, the last one disappearing when the farmers bought the Merton creamery. But the history of co-operation in the county begins in the southern part.

No proprietary plants were ever built there, but a co-operative creamery was built at Coolyville on the town line between Berlin and Summit townships in 1890 and was called the Berlin and Summit Creamery. This is now known as the Ellendale Creamery. The following year, 1891, the Pratt Creamery was built. Subsequently the old building was replaced by two new brick structures of the most modern type, Creamery A located at Pratt station and Creamery B five miles east. Following the building of these two creameries came others in the southern part of the county. The Berlin Creamery built near the Berlin post office. H. A. Finch was the first manager. The Lemond Creamery, built in Lemond township, Lemming Hansen, was the first secretary and manager. Somerset has two creameries at River Point and Steele Centre. Oak Glen Creamery at Bixby has a fine brick creamery. In the centre of Blooming Prairie township is the Union Creamery, organized on the co-operative plan. Nels Nelson was the first manager. Blooming Prairie village has the creamery doing the largest business in the county. E. Morton is the president. Summit Creamery is in the town of Summit, Mr. Kubicek, manager. Midway Creamery at Hope station, J. B. Pike, manager. Southwest of Owatonna, five miles,

is the Crown Creamery. This completes the list in the south part of the county.

West of Owatonna on the C. & N. W. Ry. is Meriden Creamery at Meriden station. H. J. Rosenan has been butter maker since the creamery started and has been one of Minnesota's best butter makers. In the northwest part of the county, in Deerfield township, is the Deerfield Creamery. A brick creamery has recently been built.

Havana Creamery, five miles east of Owatonna, was organized in 1893. John Morton was the first manager, the farmers buying the old plant of L. A. Disbrow. This was subsequently destroyed by fire and immediately rebuilt. The Moland Creamery was built in the extreme northeast part of the county and in the town of Merton. H. Ruen is the present manager.

The county is now thoroughly organized so that every farmer in Steele county has easy access to a co-operative creamery. And while there is no parent organization which covers the whole system, the creameries of Steele county are working in harmony and all practically working on the whole milk plan and making a uniformly good quality of butter.

The work along co-operative lines in Steele county, when we take into consideration the past attempts at factory manufacturing by individuals, have proven the means of building up the dairy industry, until Steele county ranks as one of the first in the state both as regards quantity and quality of her product. She has twenty-three prosperous co-operative creameries, the output of which in 1909 was upwards of 3,000,000 pounds of butter and sold for \$716,000. No other one source of income is so great as that from the sale of butter. Credit must be given to the farmers for the building up of the co-operative creameries. The results in every case have been due to the individual and collective efforts of the farmers, and in no case has outside business men or men of other pursuits invested any money in the capital stock of these creameries.

The co-operative creamery as well as the dairy industry have come to stay. The original first plants are being replaced with modern, fire-proof buildings. Nothing has added so much to the permanent prosperity of Steele county as the building of the co-operative creameries. With the advent of dairying came diversified farming and uniformly better crops. And no one thing has contributed so much to bring about these results as co-operation among the farmers.

J. R. Morley.

## CHAPTER XIII.

### EDUCATIONAL HISTORY.

**State System Inaugurated.—First School House Erected in Steele County.—Other Schoolhouses Soon Built.—Word Picture of Pioneer School.—First County Superintendent Appointed.—List of His Successors.—Owatonna Schools.—Early Meetings of the Board.—Grammar School Established.—High School Course.—Modern Modifications and Additions.—Present Buildings, System and Officers.—List of City Superintendents.—Contributed by Professor Philip J. Kuntz.**

In treating the subject of education, or of the public schools of Owatonna, but little more than half a century of time is involved. While nothing pertaining to the long ago will be really necessary, still, in order to lay a good foundation for our work, it will seem best to consider a wider field than even Steele county.

At the formation of the union, and later, when the federal government was established, there was no definite line of action as to public education, although at the same time that the Constitution was adopted the last session of the Continental Congress was being held in the city of New York, and the Ordinance of 1787 was passed, regulating the affairs pertaining to the Northwest territories, including a portion of Minnesota, that portion lying east of the Mississippi river. In this Ordinance much attention was given to the question of education, and of providing a means for public education, by giving one section in each congressional township for educational purposes. Later, when the purchase of Louisiana was effected, and Minnesota sought admission into the union, still further provision was made for education by giving two sections in each congressional township for such purposes. This gave impetus to the natural tendency toward educational matters, and we find that one of the first efforts in the new settlements was to prepare to educate the children. The church and the school building, when not one and the same, were practically always found side by side. The hardy pioneers of the Great Northwest—of which Minnesota was a part—did not wait even for a territorial government, but set to work at once to establish schools. The first one in



Minnesota, for the education of white children, was organized by Dr. Williamson, at the present site of the city of St. Paul. We are told that investigation demonstrated that there were about thirty-six children in the settlement, who might attend a school. A log house, 10x12 feet, covered with bark, and chinked with mud, previously used as a blacksmith shop, was secured and converted into a school house, and taught by Miss Bishop. Here, then, while the United States troops were gaining such signal success in the war with Mexico, was begun the system of education which has become one of the best in this great nation. In this same little school house in November, 1849, was held a meeting for the purpose of establishing a system of public education, based upon the congressional act of March, 1849, establishing Minnesota territory. Alexander Ramsey, of Pennsylvania, was appointed governor, and proceeded at once to assume the duties of his office. In his first message to the territorial legislature, in the fall of 1849, he emphasized the need of wise measures looking to the establishment of a system of public education in these words: "The subject of education, which has ever been esteemed of first importance in all new American communities, deserves, and I doubt not, will receive your earliest and most devoted care. From the pressure of other, and more immediate wants, it is not to be expected that your school system should be very ample, yet it is desirable that whatever is done should be of a character that will readily adapt itself to the growth and increase of the country, and not in future years require a violent change of system."

In response to this appeal for legislation in school matters we find that a committee on education was appointed, and a very able report was made by the chairman, Hon. Martin McLeod. This report was formulated into an act relating to public schools in Minnesota, which act was passed on the last day of the session, November 1, 1849. It organized the territory into districts, of which the township was the unit, and provided that if a township had within its limits five families it should be considered as one district, but if it contained ten families it should be divided into two districts. Tax levy was provided, and a system of management arranged. The first superintendent of common schools for the territory was Rev. E. D. Neill, who served till 1853. His salary was one hundred dollars a year.

About 1853 we find the first authentic record of people coming into what was afterward called Steele county, and the first settlements were made near Medford and on the present site of Owatonna. Not until 1855 did there seem to be a sufficient number of children to begin educational work, and then the present Steele county, and a portion of what is now Waseca

county, constituted one township, according to the meaning of the territorial plan. During the summer of 1855 a few of the settlers got together and built a kind of shed, and covered with boughs, on the present Albertus site on North Oak street, which was the first schoolhouse, and which school was taught by Helen Holbrook. Two of the student children in attendance upon this school were the mother and aunt of Grace Farmer, at present a teacher in the Lincoln school, Owatonna. The next year a log house was built, and served as a school house, church and general meeting place for public business. This building was erected near the present Lincoln school building. Here we find the children of the hardy pioneers attending school and receiving their first, and in many cases, their only educational training. At about the same time that these events were transpiring in Owatonna other settlements in Steele county were establishing schools. In the same year, namely, in 1856, Medford built a school house, and there began a kind of rivalry between the two places, with the odds for some time seemingly in favor of Medford. Clinton Falls and Havana followed in rapid succession, and it soon became necessary to plan a county system of education. Permit me here to present a picture of a winter day, say in 1858 or 9, at school. (This is a reproduction, so far as I can remember, of the school as given me by a dear departed friend, A. W. Jones.) A log school house, with an old Franklin stove set in a box of brick in the center of the room, door at one end, and two windows on each side, chinking of mud between the logs, the master's desk in one corner of the room, home-made desks for about fifteen to twenty children around the outside of the room, the dinner baskets on the floor in a corner most distant from the stove, wraps hanging about the room, and a rousing wood fire in the stove. At 9 o'clock the master calls school by rapping on the window sash and giving expression to the then commonly used expression, "Books." Then the work of the day begins.

The organization of the school system of the county, according to the territorial plan, was to have as its head a county superintendent of schools, and in the election of 1856 we find that Ezra Abbott was elected to that office. The number of school districts in the county then was thirteen and the number of teachers was fifteen. Following is the list of county superintendents, beginning with 1864, the period between 1862 and 1864 being under a different plan. (The legislature changed the system in 1862, dividing the county into three districts, in each of which the county commissioners were to appoint a superintendent.) The following persons were appointed: R. G. Lincoln, first district; Harvey Chapin, second district; Dwight Gor-



den, third district. In 1864, the law being changed back to county supervision, the county commissioners appointed A. A. Harwood county superintendent and fixed his salary at \$200 a year.

Mr. Harwood was succeeded by Hon. A. C. Hickman. F. J. Stevens succeeded him in 1868, and Mr. Stevens was succeeded by O. A. Tiffany. The terms of service are not given for the reason that no record was available. Rev. G. C. Tanner was the next county superintendent and held the office until 1887, when he resigned. J. D. Brown was appointed to fill the vacancy and held office till 1890, when E. G. Adams was elected, and held office for four years. In 1894 C. L. Whitman was elected, and served but one term. In 1896 Frank Carleton was elected, and served one term, when W. V. Kasper was elected and served two terms. In 1902 A. E. Kenyon was elected and in 1904 C. L. Davis was elected, serving two terms. In 1908 Steele county for the first time in its history elected a lady to the office of county superintendent, in the person of Grace G. Randall, who occupies the position at the present writing.

### OWATONNA SCHOOLS.

About 1860 or 1862 the settlement of Owatonna had sufficiently increased to call for a larger building, and a frame school house, with two rooms, was built by Elder Towne, which building was used until removed in 1902, and is now changed into a dwelling house on East School street. As teachers for this school Katherine Adair, sister of the present (1910) high school principal, Esther E. Adair, was one of the teachers. A picture of these two teachers, and their children is at present in possession of Esther E. Adair.

In 1865 a special charter was granted to the city of Owatonna, making the territory of the city of Owatonna in the county of Steele, to constitute one school district, and under the control and direction of a board of education. As members of this board of education the following persons were elected, as per record, now in the possession of the board of education: A. Towne, term three years, second ward; S. Hotchkiss, term three years, first ward; D. W. Burch, term one year, third ward; D. S. Harsha, term one year, at large; C. L. Tappan, term two years, at large.

April 10th, 1865, the meeting for organization "met according to law, in the principal school house of said city, and organized by electing Rev. A. Towne, president, and Rev. C. L. Tappan clerk, by ballot."

These minutes, and the minutes from that day to this,

are complete and continuous, and well kept. At this first meeting it was decided to have three terms of school during the year, of three months each, and that they employ two female teachers for the first (summer) term.

"Adjourned for 5 minutes, by order of the president, to read the local news, at the expiration of which time business was resumed."

It was also voted that school commence the first Monday in May, 1865. April 20, 1865, another meeting was held, and Mary E. P. Smith was elected at \$7 a week, and Mary E. Blair, at \$6 a week. May 25, 1865, another meeting was held and this record is found:

"In view of the crowded state of our schools, it was voted to open another department, viz.: grammar department, and Messrs. Towne and Harsha were appointed a committee to procure a suitable room for the same and report next Monday evening." At the appointed meeting the committee reported that they were unable to procure a room. At this meeting they "voted to hire the Baptist church, if it can be obtained, for the grammar school." June 1st, 1865, a meeting was held, and the following appears: "Voted to hire C. T. Andrews to teach the grammar department in the Baptist church, 7 weeks, beginning next Monday, and to pay him \$60 for the same. Messrs. Burch and Tappan were appointed a committee to hire Mr. Andrews and grade the schools. Mr. Burch was appointed to procure pail, dipper and broom."

The fall of 1865 the schools began the first Monday after Thanksgiving, and later it was found that a fourth teacher was necessary, and the same was provided to begin in January, 1866.

At a meeting of the board held January 8, 1866, I find the first record of rules and regulations to govern the schools, which are as follows: 1st, The schools shall be divided into three departments, styled the primary, intermediate and grammar departments, and the studies pursued in each shall be uniform. 2nd, Every pupil in the intermediate and grammar departments of the school shall be required to read and spell at least once each day. 3d, There shall be no profane or indecent language used by any pupil in attendance at the schools. 4th, There shall be no rude or boisterous play in the school rooms and no marring or defacing of either school room or furniture. 5th, Every pupil in the grammar and intermediate departments who shall be tardy or absent shall be required by the teacher to bring a written excuse from parent or guardian, and no pupil shall be dismissed during school hours without a written request from parent or guardian. Provided further, that whenever such excuses and request shall number five, the teacher shall report

said pupil to the board, and refuse to admit him to school until he present a written statement from some member of the board entitling him to admission. 6th, Composition and declamation shall be maintained in the grammar department, and declamation in the intermediate department every week. 7th, Any pupil wilfully violating, or refusing to comply with any of these rules, shall, upon due proof being given, be expelled or not, at the option of the board, during the remainder of the term in which such offense is committed."

It is quite noticeable that much time, during these earlier years, was spent by the board in employing teachers, as they were almost entirely employed for a term of three months, when they were either reemployed or others employed to take their places.

May 5, 1866, a district meeting was held for the purpose of voting \$2,500 worth of bonds "for the purpose of purchasing sites and building two school rooms in the district." The bonds were voted. And from half the issue the minutes show the purchase of the Baptist church. September 14, 1867, an adjourned meeting of the qualified voters of the district was held, which meeting was addressed by Mark H. Dunnell, state superintendent of public instruction. At this meeting it was voted to bond the city of Owatonna, school district number one, to the amount of \$20,000, for the purpose of purchasing a site for, and the erection of, a central school building. The bonds were voted to be issued at 10 per cent, but later I find another meeting called for the purpose of authorizing the payment of 12 per cent, as no money could be procured at 10 per cent. The change was voted, but a change in amount was also made, to \$15,000. February 17, 1868, at a meeting of the qualified voters, the site for a central school building was selected, which was the present site of the high school building, and on March 2, 1868, the board resolved to build a central school building on the site previously selected. The building was to be of red brick, and three stories high, with nine foot basement. Plans and specifications were prepared by I. I. Fuller, for \$100. Contract for building was given to I. W. Dresser and D. Marble, April 27, 1868, for \$14,419.

August 27, 1868, the board, at a regular meeting, elected Wm. L. Butts principal of the schools at a salary of \$1200 a year. Up to this time C. T. Andrews seems to have been the principal. In the reelection of Prof. Butts for the fourth year, June 3, 1871, he was elected principal and superintendent. This is the first time the title of superintendent is applied. Prof. Butts was at head of the schools until 1873, when he was succeeded by C. W. Hall, of Mankato, who occupied the position for two years,

when C. W. Clinton was elected, and served for three years. On the official record I find the following interesting item: "The night of January 7, 1873, and the day following are recorded as having experienced the most severe and destructive storms that have been known in the history of Minnesota. At about 3 o'clock in the afternoon the wind changed from the south to the northwest and continued increasing in power until it became one of the greatest electrical storms ever known in the Northwest. So much so that messages were readily sent after the batteries had been disconnected from the wires. The loss of life along our northern and western frontier has been terrific; over 200 persons are known to have perished during the storm. Comparatively few lives have been lost in the southern and eastern portions of the state. The air became so filled with drifting snow that it was impossible to distinguish objects at more than ten or twelve rods distance, and often not more than four rods. Mercury going no lower than 18 degrees below zero."

At a meeting of the board September 5, 1876, Prof. Clinton presented the following high school course of study, which was the first on record, and, as the record shows, was adopted, after some discussion:

"High school course of study, 1876.—First year, first term: Arithmetic, practical and mental; reading; physical geography; United States history; grammar; spelling; language lessons; drawing (optional); penmanship. First year second term: Arithmetic, practical and mental; reading; United States history; algebra, to factoring; grammar; language lessons; physiology; drawing (optional); spelling; penmanship. First year, third term: Arithmetic, practical and mental; language lessons; drawing (optional); algebra, reviewed; spelling; penmanship; reading; United States history, completed; grammar. Second year, first term: Algebra, continued; word analysis; penmanship; school composition; United States constitution; drawing (optional); natural philosophy; spelling; general history. Second year, second term: Algebra, completed; word analysis; penmanship; school composition; United States constitution; drawing (optional); natural philosophy; spelling; general history. Second year, third term: Algebra, reviewed; word analysis; penmanship; natural philosophy, completed; United States constitution, completed; drawing (optional); school composition; spelling; general history. Third year, first term: Geometry; English literature; chemistry; rhetorical exercises; political economy; analysis of English language. Third year, second term: Geometry; geology; chemistry, completed; rhetorical exercises; analysis of English language; English literature. Third year, third term: Geometry, completed; elements of bot-



any; elementary astronomy; rhetorical exercises; English literature; analysis of English language."

August 29, 1879, Prof. J. C. Bryant was elected superintendent, Prof. Clinton having resigned. Before the opening of school for this fall, the above course of study was slightly modified, principally by the addition of Latin in the second and third years. The rules and regulations were also changed, rather brought down to date, and were in much the form and sentiment as at present in force. The course of study was changed at different times, making it stronger with each change, and also making it harmonize with the work in other high schools and enabling the graduates from this high school to enter colleges and universities upon their credentials and without examinations. Not until after 1890 was the course extended to a full four-year high school course, with four years of Latin offered, and two years of German offered. Changes have been a necessity in later years in order to add to the work the special lines, and give our young people an opportunity to secure the varied lines offered to young people in other communities and cities. Thus in 1901 music and drawing were added as a regular line, in charge of a special teacher. In 1907 manual training and mechanical drawing were added, and are in charge of a special teacher. During this same year the kindergarten was opened as a part of the public-school system of the city, in charge of a teacher and one assistant. This addition to the public-school system was made possible by reason of a perpetual endowment in the sum of \$5,000, left for that purpose by Hon. H. H. Rosebrock, a public-spirited and philanthropic citizen for many years. In 1909 the line of work was further extended by the addition of home economics, in charge of a special teacher. One further addition, that of agriculture, is being planned, and it is expected to put into operation a special course in agriculture, in charge of a trained person in that line of work.

The first class to graduate from the high school was in the spring of 1877, and consisted of seven young people, four boys and three girls, two of whom are at present citizens of Owatonna, viz.: Alice L. Hold (Mrs. George R. Kinyon) and Charles L. Pound. Since that time, with the exception of 1878 and 1881, graduation exercises have been held, and classes have increased in size until the present class numbers forty-nine. The management of the school has been quite uniform and successful, the ruling principle being to maintain a high standard, and give the young people of Owatonna the benefit of the best that can be provided. Tenure of superintendents and teachers has been based upon the principle that successful individuals should be retained as long as possible. Fewer changes in superintendencies



have been made than in most places. Mr. Bryant left in 1882 and was succeeded by Hon. George B. Aiton for many years, and at present state high school inspector, who remained but two years. A. W. Rankin was elected in 1884, and remained until 1889. Mr. Rankin is at present professor in the College of Education at the state university. G. F. Kenasten was here from 1889 to 1892; B. T. Hathaway, from 1892 to 1893; L. H. Ford, from 1893 to 1899, since which time the writer has occupied the position.

At the present time there are, including the Kindergarten building, which is famous for having been Steele county's first court house, five buildings: The high school building, erected in 1883, to take the place of the one erected in 1868, and burned to the ground in 1882; the McKinley building, erected in 1895 and 1899, corner of Rose and Grove streets; the Lincoln building, erected in 1885 and in 1902, on the original school site; the Jefferson building, on the west side, corner of Bridge and State streets, erected in 1904, and the Kindergarten building, above mentioned. The entire number of teachers employed, including the superintendent, is thirty-five. The board of education consists of one member from each ward (five) and two at large, making it consist of seven members. The levy for school purposes is \$20,000. To this is to be added the state appropriation, amounting to over \$4,000, and the state high school aid, which now is \$1,750 annually.

The enrollment has reached 1,275, of which number 260 are enrolled in the high school. The class of 1910 consisted of eighteen young men and thirty-one young ladies—forty-nine in all—the largest class so far graduated from the schools. The board of education at present consists of: George Parrott, president; W. C. Zamboni, secretary; W. W. Kinyon, treasurer; R. H. G. Netz, Guy B. Bennett, M. R. Cashman, Anton Seykora, Jr.; P. J. Kuntz, superintendent, ex-officio member.

## CHAPTER XIV

### MILITARY HISTORY

**Steele County in the War for the Preservation of the Union—  
First War Meeting Held—Company Marches to Faribault  
and Is Mustered in at St. Paul—Enlistments and Bounties—  
Military Districts—War Record of Those First Enlisting—  
Names of the Soldiers from this County—Grand Army Or-  
ganizations—Old No. 5 Post—McPherson Post—James A.  
Goodwin Post and Corps—By E. E. Bigelow, M. D.**

The county of Steele, which was organized in 1855, and in 1860 had a population of but 2,863, was only six years old, and the state scarcely three years old, when the pioneers were called to the defense of their flag and nation, then threatened through the secession of the Southern states from the Federal union, and the dogs of war were let loose by what had, during the winter months of 1860-61, developed into a confederacy of the Southern states, and an open rebellion to the government at Washington, which was ushered in by a direct attack by armed forces upon Fort Sumter on April 12, 1861. At this time Alexander Ramsey, governor of Minnesota, chanced to be in Washington, and immediately sought Secretary Cameron, and in writing tendered 1,000 soldiers from Minnesota in defense of the government, which offer was presented to the president and by him accepted. The governor telegraphed the same to the adjutant general of the state, with orders to make a call for troops. On receipt of the news of the call at Owatonna, although Steele county was but sparsely settled, its citizens loyally responded, and immediate steps were taken for the enlistment of volunteer soldiers for the ninety-day service.

At a war meeting called at the old Morford Hall, the room was packed by a crowd of enthusiastic men and women. Among the patriotic speakers was Lewis McKune, of Waseca, who had come over to Owatonna for the occasion, and who added greatly to the enthusiasm of the meeting through an eloquent arraignment of the rebellious states. At the close of his address he stepped forward and headed the enlistment roll, which was in quick succession signed by Samuel Dwight Morford, Anton Schimek, Andrew Collyer, Merritt B. Patten, Alvin Phelps, Edward Phillips, Oscar Gross, Henry Borchert, George W. Crooker,

Fredelin Bool, Merritt B. Case, William N. Card, M. M. Curtis, Frank Dickenson, Charles E. Davison, James L. Dubois, Jerome Farensworth, George J. Hopkins, Anthony Jones, Francis F. Livingston, Irvin W. Northrup, Martin Patterson, Walter S. Reed, George P. Sawyer, James T. Sawyer, John E. Strothman, George Thom and Theodore Williams, making an honor roll of twenty-six able-bodied men. These men marched, under the strain of martial music furnished by David Lindersmith as fifer and Elder Thomson as drummer, to Faribault, where they were joined by other contingents from Faribault, Waseca, Dundas and Northfield, and organized into a full company, with Lewis McKune, captain; Nathan S. Messick, first lieutenant, and William E. Smith, second lieutenant. The company went immediately to camp at St. Paul, and was mustered into the service of the United States as Company G, First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, April 29, 1861, just seventeen days after Fort Sumter was fired upon and fourteen days after the president made his first call for 75,000 ninety-day men, the First Minnesota having the honor to be the first regiment mustered into service on that call. Before leaving the state a request was received from the president that a re-enlistment of the regiment be made for a period of three years or during the war, which was unanimously responded to by the regiment, and it went to the front as such, not having to be remustered into service at the expiration of the ninety days. Considering that this regiment of men either came from the farm or from one or another branch or trade or profession, and that all contingencies had to be provided for, there probably was not another regiment during the war's continuance so quickly organized and taken to the scene of military activity as this one. During the continuance of the war Steele county made a record for promptness in furnishing her quota of soldiers at every call from the president which she can justly feel proud of. Considering that the population of the county at the breaking out of the rebellion numbered only 2,863, all told, and that 412 of her able-bodied young patriots volunteered and gathered at rendezvous, leaving their all at home, either in the care of wife or aged parents, freely jeopardizing their lives upon the altar of their country, all old as well as new comers into the county should look back to those early days of the county's efforts with great satisfaction. As the census figures would show, 75 per cent of the able-bodied men of the population of the county went out to defend Old Glory and what she represents.

During those "times that tried men's souls," the "copperhead" element in Steele county was not sufficient to become very noticeable, except in a very few instances, when the offender was given twenty-four hours to move out of the county or to be

moved from earthly strife altogether—a warning he learned to heed.

In its official capacity, too, considering the stringency of money matters in those early days of Western pioneering, Steele county was magnanimous in the provisions made for supplying bounties to her volunteer soldiers, and in addition to which nearly every township in the county provided a special bounty as a sort of emergency relief work. On August 4, 1862, President Lincoln made his fourth call for additional troops. Reliance for providing bounties in Steele county had to a great extent been placed upon private subscriptions, which had become inefficient, and there had been no provision on the previous tax assessment roll for war purposes. Consequently, on August 12, 1862, Alexander Chambers, then chairman of the board of county commissioners, convened the board in special session. Of the three members of the board, Mr. Chambers and Benjamin F. Melvin were present, Hiram Fredenburgh not being able to come from Summit. At this meeting of the board, the sum of \$50 was appropriated for each volunteer who should enlist in answer to the call and be mustered into service, and it was ordered that the bounties should be paid in installments of 10 per cent of the whole amount to the married men at the end of each month thereafter until the whole amount had been paid; single men to receive one-half of the full amount at the end of six months and the balance at the end of the first year of service. At a subsequent meeting of the board, held on September 12, 1862, the full membership being present, a change in the manner of the payment of the bounties was made, in which it was ordered that the 10 per cent payments upon the bounties appropriated should be made at the end of each month, and the county treasurer was instructed to call upon all persons who had subscribed to the bounty fund and solicit their subscriptions, that the monthly payments could be met when due. On January 9, 1863, at a regular meeting of the full board of county commissioners, the county treasurer informed the board that there was no money in the treasury with which to meet the monthly installments then due volunteers. The board instructed the county auditor that upon the presentation of an order upon the treasurer by any volunteer, there should be issued to him the amount of the installment due him, in county scrip, bearing 10 per cent interest.

On April 8, 1863, at a special meeting of the county board, called for that purpose, the county was divided into districts for the election of officers for military purposes; each district to have one captain and one first and one second lieutenant, the districts being arranged as follows: The First district was to



include Aurora and Dover (now Havana), and the meeting and election was to be held at the residence of A. B. Clark; the Second district was to include Somerset and Summit, the election to be held at the school house near Mr. Bills' house; the Third district was to include Berlin and Lemond, election to be held at the residence of J. W. Crosby; the Fourth district was Owatonna, election to be held at the school house; the Fifth district was Merton, election to be held at town meeting place; the Sixth district was to include Clinton Falls and Medford, election to be held at residence of David Sanborn; the Seventh district was to include Meriden and Deerfield, election to be held at the school house near John O. Waumumetts' residence.

December 19, 1863, at a meeting of the board, a resolution was passed stating that the majority of the taxpayers of the county wished the bounty to be raised to \$100 for volunteers. In accordance therewith, B. F. Melvin was instructed to ascertain where, and on what terms, the county could secure a loan that would be sufficient to meet the claims of the volunteers. In January, 1864, he reported to the board that Dr. McCutcheon, of Faribault, would take \$3,000 of the bonds at par value, but stated that he was informed by the doctor's attorney that the commissioners had no legal right to issue such bonds.

It being found that the bonds were illegal, and not negotiable, the legislature, then in session, was asked to authorize the issue of \$6,000 in bonds, out of which each volunteer who should enlist and be accredited to Steele county should receive \$100, as soon as the money could be secured. On February 12, 1864, the legislature passed an act authorizing Steele county to issue the \$6,000 in county bonds, to draw 12 per cent interest, one-half to be paid at the expiration of two years, and the balance in three years. Alexander Chambers was appointed to negotiate the loan, and it was provided that the volunteers should be paid their bounties in the order in which they enlisted, until all should have been paid, or all of the amount of the money secured had been paid out; the instructions being that veterans who should re-enlist would not receive any portion of the bounty thus provided for the new enlistments.

Of the soldiers who went to the front with the First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, Captain McKune was killed in battle at Bull Run, July 21, 1861. Samuel Dwight Morford was wounded at the battle of Gettysburg, and was in the hospital sick when the regiment was mustered out. Anton Schimek and Andrew Collyer were both killed at Bull Run. Merritt B. Patten was killed at Bull Run. Alvin Phelps was discharged for disability. Edward Phillips was promoted to a corporal and mustered out with his regiment. Oscar Gross met a severe bullet



wound through the elbow joint in his right arm at Bull Run and was discharged, permanently disabled. Henry Borchart was transferred to the United States Cavalry, October 25, 1862. George W. Crooker was wounded at Bull Run, and discharged for disability. Fredelin Bool remained the full term of enlistment and was mustered out in May, 1864. Merritt B. Case was wounded at Bull Run and discharged, to be promoted major of a colored regiment. William Card died at Fair Oaks on June 2, 1862. M. M. Curtis was discharged for disability January 26, 1862. Charles E. Davison was wounded at Bull Run and died November 6, 1862, at New York. James L. Dubois was wounded at Bull Run and discharged July 6, 1863, for disability. Frank Dickinson, corporal, was promoted to company sergeant and mustered out with the regiment. George J. Hopkins was wounded at Gettysburg; further than this, the rolls do not record what did become of him or that he was ever mustered out of service. Anthony Jones was wounded at both Bull Run and Gettysburg, and finally discharged for disability. Francis F. Livingstone held the position of division wagon master during the term of his enlistment, and was mustered out in May, 1864. Martin Patterson was discharged for disability January 7, 1863. George P. Sawyer was killed at Gettysburg. James T. Sawyer was severely wounded at Antietam and not accounted for. John E. Strothman, corporal and musician, was killed at Gettysburg. George Thom was mustered out at expiration of enlistment, May, 1864. Theodore Williams died September 24, 1862. Walter S. Reed was wounded at Bull Run and Gettysburg and transferred to the First Battery. Irvin W. Northrup, sergeant, died July 14, 1862, of disease.

Did time and space permit, the writer would be glad to give the full roster of service performed by the individual volunteer soldiers from Steele county, but it has been deemed sufficient to give here the record of those on the honor roll from the county—that is, those who went out with the first company.

It is well to mention here a rather interesting incident connected with the wound received by Oscar Gross and the writer. After passing through the operation for relief of the wound, and his allotted time under the surgeon's care in the army hospital, Mr. Gross was discharged from the service, and through a failure to discover a part of the bullet that had become imbedded in the joint of the elbow, he had carried the same during a period of twenty-six years, with two open discharging outlets, one on either side of the joint, which caused the destruction of the usefulness of the joint and the withering of the whole arm, making it comparatively useless, besides a constant source of pain and anxiety to him, needing during this whole period to be dressed

and cared for, till January, 1887. My attention was called to the shattered arm, and upon investigating the diseased joint, located the portion of bullet, and removed it, after which he was relieved from his suffering and became a more useful man. Had the army surgeon attended to his duty, this man would have escaped many years of suffering, and have had the use of his right arm.

The following is a list of the soldiers who answered their country's call and enlisted from Steele county, as taken from the records in the adjutant general's office:

Aurora—Levi Annis, Jacob Berg, J. S. Bixby, George H. Curtis, Henry Lopping, William Green, Felix Myers, Patrick Morin, Dennis Morin, George A. Fling, William J. Snider, R. C. McDaniels, Nils P. Thimson, John L. Roberts, William J. Johnson, Samuel Howe, Chris. Dickenson, Samuel B. Olmstead, David Pettie, C. B. Pettie, G. C. Pettie, Albert T. Cook, James L. Roberts, Clark Weed, Halleck Siverson, Alonzo Richards, Arthur H. Danchey.

Berlin—Levi Chase, Dudlet Chase, Timothy Chase, William Hanson, Eli F. Pitcher, Isaac Reese, Francis Grow, Eugene W. Roberts, William Wilson.

Dover (now Havana)—Frank Chambers, Manley M. Curtis, James L. Dubois, George W. Emery, Anthony Jones, Anthony W. Jones, Isaac W. Jones, Martin Patterson, J. E. Strotham, Oscar Tiffany, John W. Warfield, John Willis, Joseph R. Webster, W. H. Buns, Gilbert W. Elliot, John McCaslin, Richard S. Bailey, Henry Bloomer, Henry F. Minthorn, Allen Hart, John Anderson, Charles Hudson, Charles Jones, S. F. Giles.

Clinton Falls—Osias B. Baker, William Barnhard, James Barnhard, John H. Bortley, R. W. Cressey, Thomas Curtis, George W. Green, Andrew M. Hunt, Sanford E. Hays, William E. Morrison, Thurman E. McNitt, Henry Parsons, B. C. Sanborn, D. W. Williamson, Joseph Richie, Sanford H. McIntire, Samuel Morrison, Martin Warner.

Deerfield—Demster L. Winchell, Patrick Condon, Benjamin Gypson, William Hodgson, Samuel Lilly, Henry N. Morse, William Rosenthal, William Star, Charles H. Williams, Henry G. Carter, William W. Arnold, Cyrus M. Huston, Newton Parker, Joseph Fleury.

Lemond—Samuel B. Beach, Aaron S. Bragg, Joseph Tatro, John Tatro, Thomas Huston, Nelson Johnson, Newcomb Kinney, Stillman Kinney, Daniel Tasker, Samuel Gould, Henry W. Bragg, Edward Davis, James Gibson, Ingbert Sorenson.

Medford—John L. Barney, Clavin G. Bliss, Warren P. Bisell, John L. Davis, Thomas E. Davis, Richard M. Drake, Adoniram Eastman, Albert B. Francis, Francis W. Fowler, Loren

Fowler, Samuel M. Freeman, Samuel M. Guile, Augustus Has-kill, Isaac P. Heath, John A. Heath, Charles Jeffery, George Kendig, John H. King, James S. Stodard, Nelson McClure, William W. Wilkins, August, A. Lincoln, Ambrose Moore, William McCrory, Albert McKinney, F. L. Melvin, M. D. L. Miller, Elias G. Pike, Charles Pomeroy, William Pasco, Eugene P. Ring, Jotham Shaw, M. L. Strong, George B. Sawyer, H. N. Thurston, John W. Wentworth, W. W. Wheeler, W. W. Wilkins, Lewis M. Howard, Moses Hoit, James H. DeReenier.

Meriden—Henry Bradley, William Bradley, Charles Fitzsimmons, Lewis Fitzsimmons, L. J. Green, William S. Tuthill, Byron J. Williams, Asa Mosher, Samuel W. Baker, Thomas Cooney, Henry Ritchie, James R. McNitt, John A. Teed, James W. Kern, Cornelius F. Ross, Francis H. Carr, William McCabe, James Bradley, Anthony J. Jordon, John D. Tuthill, Charles S. House, Philo Hawes, John L. Anderson, William H. Kidney, V. V. Middaugh, William A. Harris, Lewis Jacob, Adelbert Smith.

Merton—James H. Adams, James J. Barnes, Norman Mosher, Willard E. Marlin, Alvin Burns, Charles B. Baker, Joseph Carpenter, Samuel J. Curtis, Patrick Conden, Thomas Carpenter, A. R. Eastman, Levi Flake, Michael W. Henry, Miles Henry, Frederick J. Irvin, Henry B. Jones, Oliver T. Jones, Frank L. Kendall, John Lane, Michael McAndrews, Wilmot H. Pinnick, Robert Thom, Patrick McAndrews, Sewel P. Norton, George Naylor, James Naylor, Andrew W. Reed, Franklin Thompson, Emmons P. Taylor, Theodore Williams, George H. Willey, Melvin H. Welch, Lawrence W. Molley, Warren Barnard, Daniel Dodge, Jr., Smith Casler, John W. Curtis, Henry L. Curtis, Terrence O'Toole, Thomas J. Conlin.

Owatonna—R. C. Ambler, E. M. Arnold, Fredolin Bool, John D. Burr, P. D. Barnett, Michael Barney, Hugh Burns, L. F. Babcock, Murdock P. Burr, M. B. Case, George W. Crooker, Andrew H. Colyer, D. L. Coverdale, J. T. Carter, J. W. Crawford, O. S. Crandall, Simon Case, Dexter Carlton, F. A. Conwell, Oliver Lindersmith, Ebenezer La Gro, S. D. Morford, C. F. Moessner, George M. Mills, Joel G. Morford, Orlando S. Moore, T. C. S. Minthorne, W. W. Ernest, Jeremiah Elliot, E. D. Fillmore, Harvey Fletcher, J. N. H. Flinn, Norman T. Foster, Walter Gordon, James A. Goodwin, John Grear, James F. Hall, J. B. Hooker, J. A. Hadley, Jacob W. Hess, Asa S. Haynes, William Hartz, Charles F. Hammond, Thomas Kelley, E. M. Kerrott, Frank Livingstone, Richard A. Pasco, William Presley, W. H. Russell, Andrew J. Rideout, James T. Sawyer, Austin E. Schimek, W. H. Sherman, Smith H. Stowers, Richard Miles, John Morris, E. W. Northrop, Jacob Nichols, John B. Norman,

G. W. Odell, E. P. Phillips, Alvin Phelps, M. B. Patten, Adison Phelps, Fred. Parsons, Horace H. Phillips, Zeus S. Yearley, Thomas Thompson, Henry D. Brigham, Samuel S. Epla, C. E. Howard, Samuel Bettig, Jr., George W. Crooker, John D. Coon, Hiram Harsh, Ebon Hullett, Hiram Robinson, George W. Thenig, Allen S. Vail, Joseph Young, John F. Lipsey, John M. Rock, Methia Sweatt, Jacob W. Walrod, John C. Wickham, John Young, Edwin P. Buck, Thedoriorus J. Andrews, William B. Scott, George Thom, Daniel G. Towle, H. R. Thompson, James Sythomas, Julius A. Town, Willard Wheaton, Alanson B. Wood, Nathaniel Winchell, William Webster, William B. Winchell, Marcus Ware, William Bradley, O. Lindersmith, Jacob Peebles, Benjamin Siars, Daniel L. Tasker, Oscar Tiffany, Ezra A. Tyler, Erin H. Ameigh, George W. Brooks, William H. Clark, Charles Giles, Charles A. Jones, John Jepson, William B. Lyons, D. P. Marshall, George N. Hopkins, Russell Chase, Solomon Midgaugh, James M. Sherpy, George Chambers, Nathaniel Ramsey, John Wilcox, Joseph Euny, Franklin K. Hicock, Michael McPelt, Daniel R. Morrison, Wesley W. Pitch, John Wildrich, Melvin B. Slocum, Isaac Reece, Joseph E. E. Peggs, Charles W. Gardner, Steven Lafayett.

Summit—Jeremiah Fredenburg, John Farrell, James Smith, George Winchell, Benjamin S. Wheeler, Harvey Benedict, Jr., Hanson B. Davis, Alvin Fredenburg, Archibard Colanhour, Frenborn L. Austin, Roswell F. Heath, David V. Smith, William T. Scram, Isaac S. Barrett, Mortimer R. Ellis, Daniel A. Loomis, Adolphus C. Work, John Warner.

Somerset—Henry Borchert, Ferdinand Borchert, William N. Card, Charles C. Curtis, Oscar Gross, Arza B. Thompson, William N. Breidenstein, Thomas G. James, John Lunn, Joseph Buckner, Albert Bailey, Charles Ellison, Gilbert Gross, Thomas E. Kinyon, William W. Hanson, George Mitchell, David L. Mainard, Frank Sekora, James S. King, James B. Smith, Philo Sawyer, Charles A. Steele, Ole Onficleson, Byrum Powers, Henry A. Pitcher, Stephen Carvey, Hermon Johnson, Charles R. Knowlton, Lafayette Howe, Silas Anderson, Theodore Walcott.

### GRAND ARMY ORGANIZATIONS.

On the evening of November 30, 1867, several honorably discharged soldiers of the Civil War of the United States, having received a dispensation from the department headquarters of the Minnesota Grand Army of the Republic to establish a post of that order, it was organized by Comrades O. M. Knight, (Col.) H. J. Lewis, E. H. Allen, E. P. Phillips, A. S. Chase, T. H. Kelley, Dr. Solomon Blood, T. W. Hanks, M. P. Maine,



J. H. Daniels (Major) M. A. Dailey, A. F. Lewis, Eli I. Williamson and C. Chamberlain. The following officers were elected: Col. H. J. Lewis, post commander; E. W. Allen, S. V. P. C.; E. P. Phillips, J. V. P. C.; A. S. Chase, P. Adjt.; P. H. Kelley, Q. M.; Dr. S. Blood, P. Surg. The organization was named Post No. 5, Department of Minnesota, Grand Army of the Republic, and held its meetings first in the Good Templars' Hall, then for a while, by invitation, in the Winona and St. Peter railroad depot, and finally, during the last months of its existence, in the old Dresser Hall. From the date of its organization up to September 24, 1869, sixty additional comrades had been added to its ranks, making a total membership of seventy-three.

In August, 1869, orders were received from headquarters to reorganize the post under the new system that had been inaugurated at the grand encampment of the G. A. R., at Cincinnati, Ohio, on May 24, 1869. In compliance with this, the then commander of the local post, R. C. Olin, and his quartermaster, M. E. Billings, having been mustered at headquarters, mustered the officers of the old organization into the new one, and at subsequent meetings mustered Comrades R. E. Bailey, (Dr.) S. Blood, T. H. Ferrel, Andrew Fisher, F. S. Furman, H. J. Lewis, E. S. Paddock, A. B. Webber, W. S. Wilson, Ethan W. Allen, Julius F. Young, John T. Carter, John Middagh and E. H. Kennedy. Notice was served upon the comrades that they would be allowed only till the last meeting in September to be remustered and to retain membership in the order. The post drafted a new set of by-laws, named the organization McPherson Post, No. 5, G. A. R., rented a hall from the Y. M. C. A., over the Harsha drug store, now the Deviny Building, and held its last meeting on September 24, 1869, as per adjutant's last reports on file. No doubt the reason for this abrupt ending of the reorganized post was that the members of the original organization could not at the time be induced to be remustered.

**James A. Goodwin Post, No. 81, G. A. R.** The first meeting which was held for the purpose of organizing the post was at the Knights of Honor Hall over the old D. O. Searl hardware store on Cedar street, with L. L. Wheelock in the chair. Mr. Wheelock announced the presence of the vice department commander, R. A. Becker, with Comrades Zigbaum, Leibold and Waffle, of St. Paul, to assist him in the organization, and proceeded to muster in the following as charter members: E. A. Tyler, W. A. Dynes, C. W. Hadley, John Helwig, Oscar Gross, J. W. Burch, Frank L. Melvin, L. L. Inman, John Ryan, L. L. Wheelock, J. C. Barncard, S. N. Lund, Dr. W. H. Twiford, W. W. Day, George E. Sloan, Dr. E. E. Bigelow, David Curtis, Dr. J. L. Harrington, Oscar Murphy, R. H. Reynolds, Aaron Heming-



way, E. P. Norton, F. M. Bauter, Eli I. Williamson, C. M. Williamson, William Gamble, C. W. Wilkinson, J. D. Backus, J. E. Teed, D. W. Williamson, D. O. Searl, H. J. Robinson, Jerry Frendenburgh, Horace Smith, J. D. Holden and Orlando Lindersmith. An election of officers resulted in choosing L. L. Wheelock, P. C.; E. A. Tyler, S. V. P. C.; D. O. Searl, J. V. P. C.; H. J. Helwig, adjutant; W. A. Dynes, Q. M.; J. L. Harrington, P. S.; Rev. J. Newton Brown, chaplain; J. Z. Barncard, O. D.; E. P. Norton, O. B.; C. B. Wilkinson, S. M.; J. D. Holden, Q. M. S.

Among the many names presented to be considered from which to select a name for the post was that of James A. Goodwin, in memoriam of the late James A. Goodwin, a pioneer business man of Owatonna, who was enlisted as a sergeant of Company E, Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, in the fall of 1861, and was immediately taken with his regiment into active service, was promoted to the second lieutenancy of the company, and at the battle of Iuka, Miss., on September 19, 1862, lost one of his legs, and died in the hospital at St. Louis, Mo. This name was selected, and James A. Goodwin Post, No. 81, gained very rapidly in numbers. In August the hall became too small for quarters, so that the hall over the postoffice building was secured and fitted up by dividing it into two parts, making accommodations also for the James A. Goodwin Relief Corps, No. 31. This hall was occupied by the two organizations in August, 1887, the post at that time numbering 136 members. After occupying these quarters for ten years, the post and relief corps moved to the more roomy and commodious quarters in the Knights of Pythias Hall, where they still hold their meetings. Although at one time numbering 235 members, the membership has dwindled by transfers, removals, deaths and other means till at the present time there are only ninety members remaining, sixty-one comrades having died since the organization of the post.

The purposes for which the Grand Army of the Republic was organized are to inculcate and preserve fraternal feelings and interests in one another's welfare; to strengthen that bond which so strongly bound soldiers together in field and camp duties; to perpetuate the history and memory of those who have passed beyond; to render needed assistance to unfortunate comrades during their declining years, and to help and protect and assist in alleviating the hardships of the widows and children of those who fell while in the service. Another great aim of the G. A. R. is to teach patriotic thought and principles to the young and rising generations by encouraging a lasting love for the flag of our country as the great integral part of government influence; to always love, reverence and be ready to defend it. Among the results to-day, a flagstaff, provided with Old Glory,

is attached to every school house in our country, and pupils are taught to reverence it. Politically, the G. A. R. is non-partisan, no politics being allowed at the meetings.

The present officers of the local post are: T. H. Kelley, P. C.; Dr. E. E. Bigelow, S. V. P. C.; A. A. Farrensworth, J. V. P. C.; Dr. J. Palmer Johnson, adjutant; Wilford Vinton, Q. S.; Julius F. Young, surgeon; Joseph Cobb, chaplain; R. P. Pike, O. D.; Aaron S. Bragg, O. G.; Andrew Read, sergeant major; A. M. Kinyon, quartermaster sergeant. The post holds its meetings at the Knights of Pythias Hall, on the first and third Fridays of each month, at 8 o'clock in the evening.

**James A. Goodwin Woman's Relief Corps, No. 31**, was organized May 11, 1887. The first officers were: Mrs. Maria Kinyon, president; Mrs. Hattie Barncard, senior vice-president; Mrs. Sarah Sterns, junior vice-president; Mrs. James Dennis, chaplain; Miss Helen McGowan, secretary; Mrs. Rosalia Young, treasurer; Mrs. Dora Helwig, conductor; Mrs. Mary Gross, assistant conductor, and Mrs. Nellie Berg, guard. Besides the officers chosen, the following charter members were mustered by the department deputy president: the Mesdames Mary Starkweather, Sophia Sheldon, Mary Burlingame, Elsie Kelley, Lizzie Cruickshank, Phoebe Burch, Anna Austin, Frank G. Odell, Sarah Norton, Emma Hough, Ella Williamson, Sabra Jones, Maria Kinyon, Annetta Farmer, Addie Wheelock, Katherine Harrington, Cora E. Bauter and Ellen E. Buffum. The Woman's Relief Corps has always since its inception held its meetings in a room adjoining the G. A. R. hall and is an indispensable help in carrying out the plans for the annual Memorial Day observance. The ladies also figure prominently in the social functions, which are solely conducted by them, making their good cheer constantly felt and appreciated by the veteran soldiers of the post. The Woman's Relief Corps membership is not confined exclusively to the Grand Army of the Republic women, but is open to all those desiring to aid in the work of the corps. The present officers are: President, Mrs. Mary Gross; senior vice-president, Mrs. Bell Thompson; junior vice-president, Mrs. Lizzie Coppell; secretary, Mrs. Elizabeth Lamp; treasurer, Mrs. Ettie Nelson; chaplain, Mrs. Maria Kinyon; conductor, Mrs. Addie Vanwagoner; guard, Mrs. Sarah Wammett; assistant conductor, Minnie Purfurst; assistant guard, Mrs. Rosa Schmuck; color bearers, first, Miss Ellen Young; second, Mrs. Margaret Boll; third, Ellen Campbell; press correspondent, Mrs. Charlotte Kinny; patriotic instructor, Mrs. Nellie Berg; musician, Mrs. Rosalia Young. The corps has a large membership, and holds its meetings at Knights of Pythias Hall, on the first and third Friday evenings of each month.

## CHAPTER XV

### COUNTY BUILDINGS

Property Owned by the County—Lot Purchased for Court House — Cost and Description — Steele County Jail — Old Building Erected in the Seventies—Modern Structure Completed in 1903—County Alms House—Buildings and Farm.

Steele county has three county institutions—the court house and the jail at Owatonna and the county farm. The court house and the jail are substantially and economically built, and are pleasing to the eye at the same time that they serve their purpose of utility. The alms house, where the deserving poor are cared for, is also conducted along modern lines, and in a creditable manner.

#### STEELE COUNTY COURT HOUSE

The Steele county court house affords a splendid illustration of the enterprising and progressive spirit of the citizens of this county. No other county in the state can boast of a similar building that more nearly fills the needs of the community.

From and even before the time of the purchase of the site from Marvin A. Daley, September 30, 1881, it was felt by all the leading citizens that the county should have a building for its official business worthy of its sound financial standing. Nothing was done, however, until July 15, 1890, when the county commissioners made a levy of \$13,500 for the express purpose of building a court house. On December 2, 1890, plans were submitted by various architects, those of T. D. Allen, of Minneapolis, being accepted. Bids were received for the erection of the court house, in accordance with the specifications, from fifteen different firms, that of Leck & McLeod, of Minneapolis, for \$39,391, receiving the acceptance of the board, February 13, 1891. Work was commenced the following spring. The contract for the installing of a heating system, all the structure to be heated by a hot-water radiating system, with the exception of the court room, which was to be heated by a hot-air furnace, was let to Middlemist & Earle, the consideration being \$3,350. Clefton Brothers, of Owatonna, were awarded the plumbing contract—\$985—the same day, March 24, 1891.

The last session of the legislature had authorized the commissioners of Steele county to issue \$30,000 in bonds for the purpose of erecting a court house, and 5 per cent bonds to that amount were duly issued and sold at par to the Farmers and Mechanics' Savings Bank of Minneapolis, October 31, 1891. This \$30,000 was the total amount of the indebtedness incurred.

March 14, 1892, the court house was officially accepted by the commissioners, the building being found satisfactory in every way and in accordance with the contracts after a thorough examination.

The general style of the structure is Romanesque, being built of brick, faced with Austin faced brick and trimmed with Lake Superior brown stone. The rich brown color of the stone arches, caps, sills, cornices and trimmings contrast pleasingly with the deep red of the pressed brick, the latter being laid in red mortar. The entrances at each end of the building are in the form of Romanesque arches, flanked and supported by polished granite columns. Over the main door, at the north end, there is a niche supporting a group of three figures representing Mercy, Law and Justice. The main tower, located at the northwest corner of the building, is a beautiful piece of architecture, embellished with circular minarets and gables. It is provided with one of the finest tower clocks in the state, being furnished by the Howard Clock Company, of Chicago, at a cost of \$1,090. At the northeast corner is a circular tower, which rises just above the main roof, and is surmounted by a flagstaff. There is also another tower, square in form, situated at the southwest corner, in which are entrances. This tower rises one story above the main building. The roofs are covered with slate and all cornices are of metal. The large semi-circular windows on the east and west ends of the court room are of leaded glass in colors, with the state coat of arms worked in.

The interior of the building is admirably adapted for the various uses to which it is put, and is fitted and furnished in the most modern style throughout. The first floor is given to the offices of the different county officers, all being provided with a fireproof vault and steel shuttered windows. The second story contains one of the model court rooms of the state, also judge's chambers, jury rooms, consultation room and waiting rooms. The total cost of the building was \$53,500, exclusive of the \$5,000 expended for the site.

The beautifully kept grounds, set with cannons, flower beds and trees, add much to the dignified and stately appearance of the structure.

The county is deeply indebted to its loyal and faithful commissioners, during the year 1891, who made this court house



possible, and through their careful supervision saved the community thousands of dollars. Especial credit is due Herman Schmidt, chairman. He was ably assisted by the other commissioners, Theodore Chambers, Frank Carlton, Robert Crickmore and Fred Ahrens.

### STEELE COUNTY JAIL

The building of the first Steele county jail dates back to the early sixties, when the county was yet in its pioneer days. With numerous changes and additions at the times progressed, this structure gave good service for many years, until about 1900, when the question of the building of a modern and up-to-date bastille began to be discussed, the old jail having met with the disapproval of the state authorities.

November 25, 1902, the first steps were taken, the county commissioners issuing \$10,000 in bonds for the erection of a new jail, shortly afterwards selling them at par to the local banks. A month or two later a contract was signed with the Pauly Jail Building & Manufacturing Company of St. Louis for the plans and furnishings of a strictly modern jail, not to exceed \$15,000 in cost. The plans were submitted, and February 17, 1903, the contract for the removal of the old building and the erection of the new structure was awarded to Hammel Brothers & Anderson, the consideration being \$3,238. Work was started the following spring, and the jail building itself concluded during the late summer of the same year, though the installation of the steel cells and other equipment by the Pauly company was not completed until some time later.

The total cost of this structure for the promotion of the peace and welfare of Steele county was something over \$15,000, every dollar being expended to the best possible advantage. Four double cells and three single, all representing the latest ideas in that class of construction, provide ample facilities for the accommodation of the opponents of law and order.

The commissioners of 1903, F. G. Schuman, chairman; M. H. Coggins, N. O. Partridge, John Smith and C. H. Wilker, rendered invaluable service in protecting the interests of the taxpayers, and securing the erection of a model jail.

### STEELE COUNTY POOR FARM

The history of the county poor farm begins October 16, 1880, when the commissioners purchased the property of D. C. Tiffany. It consists of 120 acres of good land, located five miles east of Owatonna, and a half mile north of Havana station. The buildings are well suited for their respective purposes, the houses



being capable of accommodating twelve or thirteen inmates comfortably, and the barn and outbuildings of ample size and well constructed. During the last fifteen years several additions and some remodeling has been done. In 1905 an apple orchard of 150 trees was set out, which is promising abundant returns.

L. L. Inman was the first overseer who held office for any length of time until 1888, when Horace Chambers assumed charge and remained up to January 1, 1895. He was succeeded by Joseph Fisher, who was very successful during all his ten years of management. Anton Stancel was the next overseer, serving three years, and turning over the office to his successor, Samuel Pichner, January 1, 1908. Mr. Pichner is the present incumbent. Commissioner F. G. Schuman, as head of the poor-farm committee since 1898, has done much in the way of looking after the best interests of the county and the inmates. At present the farm has eight inmates.

## CHAPTER XVI

### OWATONNA AS A HAMLET

First Settlement—Pettit and Cornell—First House Built—Influx of Population — Bridge Constructed — Hotel and Stores Opened—Activities of the Early Days—Business Houses of 1867 and 1887—First Events.

The first settlement on the present site of the city of Owatonna was made by William F. Pettit and A. B. Cornell, in the summer of 1854. About the middle of May of that year William F. Pettit, George F. Pettit, A. B. Cornell and F. Wilbur Fisk left Sparta, Wis., for a visit to the far-famed prairies of Minnesota. George F. Pettit had been at Faribault some time previous, and made such a glowing report of the country that those who had families took them along, determined to make their homes on the sunset side of the Mississippi. Seven wagon-loads of people, furniture, supplies, etc., set out, and were four weeks in reaching Faribault—a long journey, attended with toil, discomfort and fatigue, and one that none but strong, brave hearts would undertake and successfully accomplish. George F. Pettit settled at Faribault, F. W. Fisk on East Prairie, and William F. Pettit and A. B. Cornell located on the present site of the city of Owatonna. Mr. Cornell made his claim on the east side of the river and Mr. Pettit on the west. Cornell built a somewhat primitive dwelling, which was constructed of poles covered with prairie grass, but it was sufficient to protect them from the storm and the scorching rays of the sun, and they were all content to wait patiently till a more commodious house could be erected. This was the first residence and the first building erected within what is now the city limits. Mr. Cornell soon commenced putting up a log house, just north of where the bridge now stands, and had the logs raised ready to put up on the roof, when he sold his claim to Mr. Pettit, who had, in the meantime, disposed of his own on the west side of the river to a Mr. Crehore. Some time in August, Mr. Pettit had contracted with Mr. Cornell to build a house for him, similar to the one he was building for himself, but when he purchased Cornell's claim the contract was annulled and another made that he could finish the one already commenced. We give the contract in full, as it is probably the first ever made in the county. It is as follows:

"It is hereby agreed by and between W. F. Pettit and A. B. Cornell, that A. B. Cornell shall, previous to the twentieth day of October next, build for said Pettit a log dwelling house on the foundation said Pettit has already commenced; said house to be 22 feet long and 18 feet wide; puncheon floor below, two doors and five windows, shingled roof, logs hewn inside up to beams and mudded on the outside; also a cellar 14x18 feet, dug so as to be 6 feet from bottom to sleepers; said house to be one and a half stories high and put up similar to said Cornell's, and the said Pettit is to furnish all nails, glass, sash, putty and lumber for doors and the upper floor so as not to delay said job and to pay for said building \$75. W. F. Pettit. A. B. Cornell. August 3, 1854."

These movements gave a material start to the growth of the embryo city. The first track made across the prairies is the pioneer of civilization, and forerunner generally of a crowd of immigration, and this was no exception to the general rule. Others followed the lead of Messrs. Pettit and Cornell, and several houses were built that fall (1854). Hon. G. W. Green, of Beaver Dam, Wis., commenced the erection of a house which was raised on October 2, all the settlers in the vicinity assisting. Interesting articles, written by both Judge Green and A. B. Cornell, and giving a detailed account of the experiences of each, will be found in this work. In the winter following (1854-55) J. W. Park and S. B. Smith erected a log cabin near where the Milwaukee Railroad tracks are now located.

These were dreary, lonesome days to the settlers; far from friends, marts and posts of trade, with no one save themselves to commune with, their lives must indeed have been "hermit-like." Sometimes, too, a little fear of what the Indians might do crept into their minds to disturb their tranquillity, yet the Indians were at peace with the whites, and at that time considered them their best friends. But at times circumstances would occur to arouse the suspicions of the people to a high pitch. The following instance of this was related to a historian: The first year of the settlement (1854) all the provisions and supplies of all kinds were brought from St. Paul, and at one time Mr. Cornell went with his team to that town to bring a load of provisions, etc., and was absent about a week, leaving Mrs. Cornell with only her children and a boy to keep her company. During his absence a party of Indians, a hundred or more, encamped for a time near Mr. Cornell's shanty. Yet they were very respectful and civil to the white lady, and did not venture into her house. One evening they gathered material and lighted huge bonfires a little back of the shanty, and commenced an Indian dance with all its wild accompaniments of songs and

shouts, making the night hideous with their antics and howlings. Just at this time Mr. Cornell, with his load, reached the hill about two miles north of the town, and, as he gained the summit, he saw the flames of the fires, and the dusky redskins dancing in the lurid glare of light. His wife and children! Had they become victims of the savage thirst for blood? The thought came crashing through his brain with the rapidity of lightning. He did not stop long to gaze, but, unhitching his team, he stripped the harness from the fleetest horse, and, mounting him, rode at the top of his speed, resolved to know the worst and save his loved ones or perish with them. Reaching the ford, his eyes were made glad at seeing his wife on the opposite bank, awaiting his return, who assured him that all were well and glad to see him return as safe as they were. Thankful that he was the only one victimized, Mr. Cornell returned and got his load of provisions.

When spring opened, in 1855, the settlement continued rapidly. During the spring and early summer the following named all came, many accompanied by their families: Addison Phelps, Nelson Morehouse, B. L. Arnold, Joel Wilson, Dexter Carlton, Parker Carlton, Alson Selleck, N. Winship, John Wilcox, two Schimeks, David Lindersmith, Leonard and Simeon Case, Bazil Meek, Obed Gaines, Miner Prisby, Adolphus Town, Philo Sanford, Charles Ellison, John H. and Ezra Abbott, C. G. Haynes, John Moon and Mr. Ward. Possibly there were a few others. All of these parties settled within a radius of a mile or two of the present center of the city. Many at once erected cabins, while others selected claims and returned for their families. The only sign of business here was at the residence of A. B. Cornell, where the traveling public was fed and lodged. Early in May of this year (1855) Smith & Park began keeping a few groceries and provisions at their cabin near the present railway depots. About the first of July, N. Winship commenced hauling logs for his hotel. They moved into it on August 4, and it was opened for the accommodation of the traveling public. This was the first hotel erected here, and, in fact, was the first building upon what was then the village plat. In later years, however, the plat has extended so as to take in the site of Cornell's first cabin. In September, 1855, John Sweat put up a little cabin and opened a blacksmith shop near where Deeg's wagon shop now (1887) stands. Later he sold to Joel Wilson, and left. In October, 1855, J. W. Park and S. B. Smith erected a log house just north of the Winship House, on Oak street, and filled it with a stock of goods which proved of great convenience to the pioneers. Quite a number of young men came this year, who only remained a short time.

In the summer of 1855 Mr. Pettit sold his claim to John H. Abbott, and soon afterward bought an undivided half of Mr. Cornell's claim, lying immediately south of the one just sold. All hands at once went to work to build up a first-class town. Roads and bridges, for the purpose of communication with other sections of the country, were the first things to be attended to, and with willing hearts and stout hands they went to work and opened up the roads, bridges the sluices and water courses, and soon had the satisfaction of knowing that at least an important thoroughfare was opened through their town. Mr. Cornell, with true Western energy and perseverance, built a bridge across the Straight river, and travel was seemingly nearly constant. Not infrequently were there from twenty to thirty or forty emigrant teams in the streets at the same time. Business flourished. Every settler whose house was large enough to accommodate more than his own family had all the spare room occupied with strangers and those seeking homes. Cornell, also, made several extended trips in advertising this locality. A village was platted, streets and lots marked out and speculation in city property was very active. In the autumn of 1855 the county was organized and Owatonna was made the county seat. A postoffice was opened this fall; mail routes were established, and stages were shortly afterward put on. In September, Mr. Cornell and John H. Abbott laid out the town site, comprising about 120 acres, about sixty acres on each of their claims. In November they went to Winona and pre-empted the land, and on December 26, 1855, filed the town plats in the office of Charles Ellison, register of deeds. A very respectable log school house was also built this fall, though the first school had already been taught. The old log school house performed a somewhat important part in the early history of the place. Schools were held in it during all school terms; each of the denominations used it in turn as a house of worship. All the political meetings and elections were held there; singing schools, lyceums and prayer meetings occupied the evenings, so that it was kept in almost constant use until it was removed and torn down. The town proprietors donated about forty lots to those who would erect substantial and useful buildings. During this summer (1855), Mr. Pettit built the first frame house in the country, on the hill in the eastern part of the city. He was obliged to haul part of the pine lumber from Red Wing, with which to complete the house, which cost \$107 per thousand, and the roof boards, procured at Faribault, cost \$60 per thousand. Such were the advantages under which the pioneers had to labor.

With 1856 came renewed activity in a business way as well as in emigration, and the little settlement on Straight river



increased rapidly. The winter had been a severe one, but had not depressed the spirits of the colonists. In April of this year, Messrs. Pettit, Abbott and Cornell bought of Park & Smith 500 acres of land lying on the north side of the town, for \$8,000. This was afterward known as the "Five Hundred Acre Tract." Early this year B. L. Arnold put up the Eureka House, the first frame hotel erected in the county. Philo Sanford during the same summer and fall put up what was then called the American House—now (1887) the Central. Elder Town, who had bought out Smith & Park, erected a small building on Bridge street, and moved his goods into it. Nathaniel Winship built an addition to his hotel. John Dingman came and put up a building near where Rosebrock's furniture store is now (1887) located, and J. W. Morford, who arrived at about the same time, opened a stock of goods in it. A hardware stock was established by a couple of young men, who after a few weeks, sold to E. Y. Hunnewill. Business took long strides forward. In July of this year J. W. Morford and John Odell opened a store on Bridge street, and somewhat later in the season Dr. Harsha and Judge Donaldson a drug and general provision store. Potwin & Stoughton—A. N. Stoughton and George Potwin—opened business on Main street. J. B. Crooker came this year and a few years later opened a general store. Among those who came were M. A. Dailey, J. M. Sheetz, Willard Wheaton, Harvey Beardsley, Joseph Webster, James Moore, George Oulton, Rev. H. Chapin, D. Potwin, the Odells and others.

During this year (1856) Town & Burch (Loren Town and J. W. Burch) were engaged in the general merchandise trade. In the following year Mr. Burch sold his interest to A. Town, who afterward secured the whole business, and finally closed out the stock.

In the spring of the same year (1856) Ezra Abbott, J. W. Park and S. B. Smith brought a steam saw mill from Walcott, where it had been in operation for a year or so, and this was set up just north of the bridge on the east side of the river. Building operations were greatly accelerated. The common lumber for most of the new buildings was manufactured by it. This mill was in operation here for about three years, Mr. Abbott in the meantime having purchased his partner's interests, and it was then sold and removed to Faribault.

In the fall of 1856 Nelson Morehouse erected a building and put a saw mill into operation on the water power on the west side of the river. He operated this for a number of years, and it was finally remodeled into a flouring mill. A live western newspaper was established in 1856, that did much toward making known to the outside world Steele county's advantages

During the same summer Melbourne Burr opened a cabinet shop.

In 1857 the growth was not so rapid as it had been the preceding year; considerable railway agitation was had, although not more than had been the case in 1856. During this year (1857) G. W. True and Mr. Potwin brought a saw mill here from Mount Vernon, Ohio, a bonus being raised to secure it. The mill came in the name of True, although Pettit and Abbott were interested in it. It was set up just west of the Winship House. Machinery for a grist mill was also brought here, although this was never set up. The saw mill was run for several years, and it was finally removed to Morristown.

In 1857, the first millinery store was started by Mrs. Lambert, in a building where the Brooks bakery is now (1887) located. Mrs. Magoon also started a millinery establishment at an early day.

N. Squires established a meat market this year. William Wadsworth started a jewelry store on Main street, where the jail is now (1887) located. The Sherwood Brothers opened a saloon. Mr. Coburn started a general store, trusted the railway contractors, and it soon ended in bankruptcy.

In 1858 and 1859 the financial depression which had commenced with 1857 was severely felt here. Business development was at a standstill. Money was very close; paper money was almost worthless, and every one demanded gold or silver. The bank issue, based upon railway securities, also hurt this country sadly, and it is a truthful saying that a hatful of \$100 bills of such currency would scarcely buy a meal of victuals.

J. B. Crooker established a general store in 1859 and among other business interests which in early days clustered here should be mentioned: The tailor shop started by Dresser & Goodwin, in a building nearly opposite Hunnewill's hardware store; the general store started at an early day by Bascom Bros., in a building where Greeley's pump factory is now (1887) located.

The same state of affairs, financially, continued through 1860 and 1861, while in the latter year the breaking out of the war made matters still worse. A great many of the able-bodied young and middle-aged men left during '61 and went into the service.

In 1862 business began to pick up a little. The Indian massacre drove many from the homes west of here, and Owatonna, being upon a main thoroughfare, and the first feasible stopping point, again became a scene of activity. The soldiers going through, and fleeing settlers, besides the fact that the soldiers in the army began to receive their pay at about this time, made

money matters easier, and its effect was soon felt in the channels of business.

From 1863 to 1867 the city grew rapidly, and many substantial improvements were made. Two lines of railway reached the city in 1866, as is detailed elsewhere in this volume, and this added new life to the growth, although, to a great extent, the impetus to business development given by railway connections had been anticipated, and the growth caused by it really began in the summer of 1865. From that time until 1867-68, many fine business buildings were erected, among them being Dresser's block, Kinyon's building, Kelly block, Abbott block, Wadworth's building, Crooker's residence; Crooker, Kelly, Bixby and Dr. Morehouse erected the row of bricks on the south side of Bridge street; Dr. Harsha, the First National Bank building; Odell & Pott's building, Wadworth put up a brick building, Hunnewill a hardware store, and Soule erected the north sixty feet of the H. R. Moore & Co. block. The Arnold and Park hotels, Howe's foundry and machine shops and other buildings erected and enterprises inaugurated.

The business boom of these years was almost without parallel in the history of Minnesota. The population of the city more than doubled, increasing from a village of 600 or 700 to a city of 2,000 during the years 1866 and 1867. Since that time the growth has been more gradual, but of a permanent and beneficial character.

### BUSINESS MEN IN 1868

As a matter worthy of preservation, we here present a full business directory of Owatonna in 1868: Attorneys—Amos Coggsell, A. A. Harwood, Searles & Hickman, Delos Higbee, Kinyon & Wheelock, M. A. Dailey, J. J. Aiken, N. M. Donaldson (judge). Agricultural Implements—Lowth, Howe & Co., Allen & Dearborn, Fisk & Medal, G. W. Payne, J. E. Buxton, Wm. Scruby. Boots and Shoes—Chase Bros., Lord Bros. & Co., Cooper Bros., Morford, Willsey & Co., G. F. Albertus, J. Loneragan, Frank Yaneck, J. E. Griggs. Books and Stationery—C. E. Seaton. Bankers—Easton & Kinyon, S. Mills, Jr., & Co. Barbers—Jerry Pope, J. A. Pierce, Louis Teabeau. Bakeries—Mrs. J. G. Cochran, George Chapman, M. J. White. Blacksmiths—F. H. Cooper, M. S. Quiggle, P. Schuster, C. Hanson, Hiram Cartwright, — Sherman, — King. Brewery—Mace & Co. Clothing—J. G. Denerline, Friend & Newsalt, G. F. Albertus, Soule Bros., Armstrong & Cottrell, J. E. Griggs, Marble & Co., Lord Bros. & Co., Cooper Bros. Cooper Shop—Peter Hanson. Dry Goods—Lord Bros. & Co., Cooper Bros., Arnston & Connell,

Morford, Willsey & Co., Armstrong & Cottrell, Siebold & Hortsman, Soule Bros., L. Andrews, G. F. Albertus, Jo. Wilson. Dentists—G. J. Cole, Miss Kellogg. Drugs—Harsha & Donaldson, L. Bixby, Bennett & Hubbard. Eating Houses—Railroad Eating House, C. F. McNamara, Mitchell Bros., Hiram Cartwright, Mrs. Cochrane, W. C. Bosworth, George Chapman, M. Lont. Earthenware Factory—C. C. Cornell. Express Offices—Merchant's Union and American. Furniture—J. F. Hanna, H. & J. Hickox, Chas. Schoen. Flour and Feed Stores—Farmer Brothers, Kelly & Tyler, Marble & Co., J. P. Requa, T. J. Clark, Arnston & Connelly, Newton & Gross. Foundry and Machine Shops—Lowth, Howe & Co. Groceries—Kelly & Tyler, S. S. Russell, Soule Brothers, G. F. Albertus, Joos & Boll, L. Andrews, Siebold & Hortsman, Morford, Willsey & Co., Armstrong & Cottrell, Arnston & Connelly, Cooper Bros., T. J. Clark, William Cleator, J. Chambers, H. Cartwright. Hardware—Cottrell & Hunkins, J. E. Buxton, Thomas & White, E. Y. Hunnewill. Harness Shops—O. M. Hammond, O. A. Albee, A. Burch. Hotels—Winship House, Barker's Exchange, National Hotel, American House, Arnold House, Scandinavian Hotel, Steele Center House, Tilden House, Owatonna House. Hoopskirt Factory—W. Holt. Jewelry—Ezra Abbott, J. F. Young, J. Hough. Lumber Dealers—Crooker Bros. & Lambareaux, S. B. Washburn, Backus Bros., Sterling & Searles, Dean & Co. Livery Stables—Twiss & Christie, C. W. Hastings. Millinery—Mrs. L. H. Kelly, Mrs. Magoon, Mrs. White, Mrs. W. Holt, Mrs. M. J. Myrick. Meat Markets—J. A. Oppliger & Co., Kowitz & Riedon, Truax & Savage. Physicians and Surgeons—E. M. Morehouse, L. H. Kelly, Dr. Blood, L. L. Bennett, D. Bodle, D. S. Harsha, J. G. Gilchrist and W. A. Ware. Photographers—G. W. Chesley, Mrs. J. P. Briggs, A. F. Simons. Painters—Hall, Beors & Co. Planing Mill—Lamonte Gilbert. Real Estate Dealers—W. H. Kelley, B. F. Melvin, John H. Abbott, Ezra Abbott, Searles & Hickman, Kinyon & Wheelock. Tailors—John Cottier, J. G. A. Denerline, Christopher Fahriess, D. B. Marble & Co. Telegraph Offices—A. H. Lee, operator at C., M. & St. P. depot; G. H. Merrill, at W. St. P. depot. Wagon Shops—P. Schuster, Sherman & Brown, — Brown, — King.

#### BUSINESS HOUSES OF 1887.

The general business of Owatonna, in the various lines of trade, was represented by the following-named gentlemen and firms: General Merchandise—G. F. Albertus, J. Oppliger & Co., A. Kasper, Soukup Bros., Nelson & Jeffs, J. C. Jahreiss, Petrich & Speckeen, M. Leary, T. H. Kelly & Co. and W. Holt.



Exclusive Dry Goods—H. R. Moore, Jr., & Co. and J. L. Saxton. Groceries—Twiford & Sperry, E. Downie & Co., A. Mudeking, Wm. Davidson, E. W. Piper, E. W. Clarke, Stowers & Jefferson, E. F. Requa. Clothing—John Shea, H. Katz & Co. and J. Schulein. Hardware—E. Y. Hunnewill, Thon Bros., Crandall & Nelson, Parrott & Smith, A. Knobloch and N. C. Larson. Drugs—F. M. Bauter, Wm. Gauswitz & Co., C. Peterson and Luers & Luers. Boots and Shoes—William Mork, Nichols & Hall, Weber & Son and J. A. Butsch. Jewelry—Henry Birkett, Julius F. Young and C. F. Warner. Lumber—Laird, Norton & Co. (George Clark, manager), J. Z. Barncard & Co. and Wisconsin Lumber Co. (McIndoe Alexander, manager). Saloons—Emil Theimer, J. Gleaser, Chas. Kenmoth, Joseph Hoffman, T. Fedder, Bion & Hoffman, W. Watowa, Joseph Kubat, M. Ryan, Mrs. Bartsch, Anton Belina and Thompson & Wightman. Flour & Feed—J. W. Gillett. Nearly all of the grocery stores also handle flour and feed. Marble Works—Webb & Henningway, Byrne & McDonald and A. Meyer. Agricultural Implements—Buxton & Jones, McLaughlin & Larson, R. H. Chapin, M. S. Quiggle, Crandall & Nelson, Virtue & Co. and Hotchkiss & Co. Pump Factory—Orrin Greeley. Diamond Feedmill Manufacturers—McLaughlin, Sheldon & Co. Blacksmith Shops—Brown & McRostie, Homer Wardwell, C. Zannetti, Ben. Meixner, R. Deininger, H. Cartwright, C. Hanson, M. S. Quiggle and C. F. Smith. Wagon Shops—C. Schoen, Ben Meizner, John Deeg, R. Deininger and H. Cartright. Livery—Fred Rosskopf and R. H. Chapin. Confectionery—Chas. Chenoweth, W. Dennis. Bakeries—C. Chenoweth and Mr. Brooks. Harness Shops—H. F. Luce & Son, O. Butsch, Meyer Brothers, C. Bowers and O. M. Hammond. Shoemakers—J. Lee, O. Searle, J. R. McLeod and J. Bartosch. Merchant Tailors—John Cottier, N. W. Hanson and D. Banks. Barbers—Jerry Pope, Parker Brothers, Boggs & Essex, N. G. Frisco and Andrew Sanderline. Books and Stationery—A. M. Kinyon. Several drugs stores also handle a light stock of this line of goods. Grain—Pratt & Co., Soper & Son, J. S. Austin. Photographers—G. W. Chesley and H. Muller. Dentists—Doctors Medd, Searle and Stearns. Real Estate—B. S. Cook. Meat Markets—Owatonna Packing Company, Charles Meschke, Gus Schwanke, Boice & Forsyth and John Stranski & Co.

#### FIRST EVENTS.

The first white child born in what is now Owatonna was George K., a son of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Green, which occurred on April 6, 1855. Dr. W. W. Finch attended and went from Judge Green's house to that of A. W. Adams in Clinton Falls



township, where Frank, a son of A. W. Adams, was born. The first death at Owatonna occurred in August or September, 1855, and was a child of Miner Prisby. The remains were buried in the woods north of town. The first marriage of residents took place at Faribault in the summer of 1855, the contracting parties being John Wilcox and Clara Brooks, the ceremony being performed by Elder Town. The event was heartily celebrated by the pioneers, especially the young people. The first building erected upon the original town plat was the Winship house, built in July, 1855. The first building put up within what now constitutes the incorporate limits was A. B. Cornell's log cabin. The first store was opened by S. B. Smith and J. W. Park in the spring of 1855. The first blacksmith shop was started by John Sweat. The first frame building was W. F. Pettit's residence. The first brick building was erected by William Wadsworth in 1863. It was built for a store, but is now used as an engine house.

## CHAPTER XVII.

### MODERN OWATONNA.

“Beautiful Owatonna”.—The City of Beautiful Homes.—Ideal Situation.—Public Facilities.—Educational Institutions.—Parks and Trees.—Sidewalks.—Business Advantages.—Public Buildings.—Contributed by Hon. F. A. Dunham.

Beautiful Owatonna! Built on verdant hills,  
Stretching o'er the landscape, the vale and valley fills.  
The river, parks and woodlands enhance her beauty rare,  
With civic pride we call her the fairest of the fair.

Beautiful Owatonna! With the quaint old Indian name,  
Fairest of Minnesota's cities with ever widening fame.  
Beautiful Owatonna, with her schools and charming homes;  
Once seen, she's ne'er forgotten, however far one roams.

Beautiful Owatonna! Here rear the stately walls  
Where gather youth and maidens to learn in classic halls.  
From village, city, prairie, they come to seek and find  
Equipment for life's service. Go forth to bless mankind.

Beautiful Owatonna! Home for the homeless child;  
Brought from the teeming cities, brought from the prairie wild.  
Here Minnesota gathers her wards from far and near  
In Beautiful Owatonna, the orphaned ones to rear.

Beautiful Owatonna! Her sons are widely known  
In halls of state and nation, their worth and wisdom shown.  
Forth at their country's bidding in times of direst need  
They passed through death and carnage, that the suffering might be freed.

Beautiful Owatonna! Hence, sons and daughters go,  
On missions of peace and mercy their Master's love to show.  
Forth to haste the coming of the millennium to be  
To distant western Mesa, to lands beyond the sea.

Beautiful Owatonna! In mill and shop are made  
Her products eager sought for, in all the marts of trade.

The name of Owatonna is known the world around,  
It speaks for lightened labor where toiling ones are found.

Beautiful Owatonna! Her name unsullied be,  
Synonym for virtue, for culture broad and free.  
Beautiful Owatonna! Her citizens' joy and pride;  
Their lives extend her glory, her fame spread far and wide.

Owatonna has long been known as "the city of beautiful homes," and although the name is very true and appropriate it fails to convey a proper and complete idea of the beauty, excellence, prosperity and life of the city. "The city of happy homes and prosperity" would be much more appropriate. The site for the city was selected by men of excellent judgment and foresight as is apparent to the most casual observer. The business part of the city and all connections with railroad depots is on level ground, with a gravel sub-soil, surrounded on all sides by low-lying hills, just rolling enough to give the residence district a beautiful appearance and good drainage, without any bluffs or steep grades to inconvenience vehicles or pedestrians. The name of the city is of Indian (Sioux) origin and signifies "straight." The proper pronunciation being "Woottonna."

The electric lighting plant, gas plant and central heating plant are owned by a private corporation, which furnishes electric light and gas to the greater part of the city and the hot water central heating plant furnishes heat to most of the business houses and a great many dwellings, without the inconvenience and filth attendant on private heating plants.

As the population of the city is mixed it naturally follows that there are a great number of religious organizations in the city and a great number of fine church edifices and dwellings. I will mention the different denominations without regard to the number of members or the excellence of church edifices or dwellings. First Baptist; Catholic (three parishes) Bohemian, Polish, Irish and German; First Congregational; St. Paul's Episcopal; Lutheran (three parishes), St. John's German Lutheran, St. John's Evangelical and Danish Lutheran; First Methodist-Episcopal; German Methodist-Episcopal; Seventh Day Adventist; First Presbyterian and First Universalist.

The educational system of the city is unexcelled and as each institution will be treated in detail elsewhere in this history a brief mention will suffice for the present. Pillsbury Academy is a denominational school of Baptist persuasion, for both sexes and has a main school building and auditorium, two dormitories, a gymnasium and armory, and a music hall. It is a high class

preparatory school and is widely and favorably known throughout the Northwest. The Owatonna public school system is one of the very best in the state and is well equipped with all modern appliances and departments. Besides the high school building there are three ward school buildings and all are fine modern brick and stone structures. The Academy of the Sacred Heart is a Catholic school for girls and is the usual high grade school of that class and in connection therewith is a parochial school for children. Canfield Business College, as the name indicates, is a school of business and is one of the best in the state. The State School for Indigent Children, with its fine buildings and beautiful grounds, is justly one of the show places of the city. It has a capacity of two hundred and fifty inmates and poor children are sent here from all parts of the state to enjoy the care and protection provided for them by the state of Minnesota.

Owatonna is the principal city and county seat of Steele county, one of the very best dairy and diversified farming districts in the United States, and as a result of the prosperous conditions existing very generally throughout this region, the city is prosperous. Not with the transient prosperity of a boom, but with steady, normal and healthy business conditions, that will prevail as long as Mother Earth continues to produce, and that is one of the reasons, among a number, that causes this city to be an absolutely safe place to make an investment.

Great quantities of sand and gravel are available for street use, and, as a result of the continued and systematic use of such material, the fifty miles of streets within the corporate limits are uniformly in good repair. On all of the residential streets are to be found great numbers of beautiful trees, of every known variety, thus making of the city, especially in the summer time, a veritable forest and giving the whole residence district the appearance of a beautiful park. In this parklike region are a great number of elegant modern homes, few of which are imposing or ornate, few are old or dilapidated, thus producing a uniformity and symmetry in the dwellings that is very pleasing, and would lead a person to believe that all of the buildings had been designed by some competent architect. The general condition and appearance of the homes denotes very accurately the financial condition of the citizens generally, there being few very rich and few very poor people in this city.

For several years the city has required the use of stone, brick or cement in the construction of sidewalks, and as a result, the thirty miles of sidewalk in this city is fully 95 per cent of such material and in connection therewith there are miles and miles

of well-kept boulevards with neat stone or cement curbing and cement or cobble stone gutters.

Owatonna is peculiarly well situated from a business standpoint, being located in a prosperous region and having excellent railroad facilities. It is located at the junction of three great railway systems, viz.: Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific; Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul and the Chicago & Northwestern lines, sixty-seven miles south of St. Paul, and with forty trains daily has direct, ready and convenient connection with all points north, east, south or west. On account of the location, railroad facilities and good homes, a great many traveling salesmen make this city their home. Straight river runs through the city and is a beautiful little stream. It is not large enough to be of any material advantage for power purposes but furnishes ample drainage facilities.

In the population of 6,500 to 7,000 people may be found a wonderful mixture of races with no one nationality predominating, thus causing a natural rivalry of races that makes for the success of any community.

The business part of the city resembles somewhat the form or shape of a hand ax. Broadway and Bridge streets, each of one solid block, being the blade, and Cedar street, of four blocks, being the handle, with Central Park as the eye of the ax, as it is the eye of beauty of the city. In the retail business section are one hundred and four retail business houses, of which ninety-eight are of stone, brick or cement, and of which fourteen are double store buildings. In addition there are twenty-two retail business places which are usually found in frame buildings in any small city, being the lumber yards, blacksmith shops, coal and wood yards, etc.

Practically all of the retail business buildings are modern and in good repair and many are deserving of special mention. The National Farmers' Bank building is one of the very best in the Northwest. The Kelly building; the Parrott & Smith building; the Owatonna Hotel; the Auditorium building and the Crandall building are all fine three-story brick and stone buildings of more than ordinary excellence.

The city is provided with all modern conveniences usual to a city with a much greater population. The water system is the property of the city and has proven to be a paying investment. The profit therefrom being about two thousand five hundred dollars annually, besides furnishing all the water for city use without charge or tax, thus making a total saving of about eight thousand dollars annually to the city. With fifteen miles of water mains and twelve miles of sewer mains the greater portion of the city is supplied with water and sewer service.



Owatonna is justly proud of its parks, and Central Park, located in the center of the city, adjacent to the business district, is the subject of favorable comment from all who see it and is indeed "a thing of beauty." Mineral Springs Park, located within a mile of the city, was beautiful in nature, but owing to the care and attention it has received it is now a beauty spot far surpassing most public parks.

The public buildings of the city are an expression of the general desire of our citizens to have the best things obtainable for home or public use. The Steele county court house is a fine three-story brick and stone building surrounded by a beautiful lawn and many fine shade trees. The Steele county jail and sheriff's residence is a modern brick structure containing all modern conveniences. The city hall, fire station and firemen's hall is an elegant three-story brick and stone building equipped with modern fire fighting apparatus, convenient city offices and the third floor, devoted to the use of the Firemen's Relief Association, finished and furnished by such association, is the most beautiful and well appointed hall in the state. The Owatonna public library, an elegant brick building, surrounded by a wide lawn, is a handsome structure, the city hospital has an ideal situation and surroundings, while the churches are all notable examples of ecclesiastical architecture, the Universalist church being especially notable for its pleasing design.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

### OWATONNA COMMERCIAL MEN.

Coming of the Railroads.—Race for Supremacy.—Owatonna Becomes a Pioneer Distributing Point.—Traveling Men Begin to Settle Here.—Reasons for Their Choice.—Social and Municipal Advantages.—Owatonna Council, No. 85, United Commercial Travelers.—First Officers.—Prominent Members.—Contributed by W. B. Clarkson.—Owatonna Hotels.—Old Winship House.—Pioneer Hotel.—Central House.—American House.—Old Owatonna House.—Norsk Hotel.—Scandinavian House.—German Hotel.—Arnold House.—Tremont House.—City Hotel.—Peachey House.—Robinson House.—Merchants' Hotel.—Commercial Hotel.—Church's Hotel.—Kaplan House.—Owatonna House.—Smaller Hosteries.

The month of August, 1866, saw the beginning of a new era for the village of Owatonna, that being the year when the Winona & St. Peter, and the Minneapolis & Cedar Valley railroad construction crews were pushed to their limit of speed in a race for the crossing at Owatonna. Tradition has it that the first named crew hauled materials and laid a long stretch of track in the blackness of a dark night without the aid of artificial lights. So quietly was the work performed that the opposing crew knew nothing about the operations until the morning light of the following day revealed their rivals in possession of the coveted ground, and it is stated that for several days the opposing camps maintained a continual warfare until the matter was finally settled by the principals getting together in an agreement. This incident is related to mark the beginning of Owatonna as a popular headquarters for commercial travelers. From this point they pushed out across the vast wilderness to the west and northwest, taking orders for goods and supplies at the various settlements and trading posts, and these goods were shipped from the trade centers of the east by rail to Owatonna where they were transported to destination by wagon and team.

In the spring of 1867 the Winona & St. Peter railroad was completed to St. Peter, and later the Minneapolis & Cedar Valley was absorbed by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul system and completed southward, but Owatonna continued to hold its

position as a popular headquarters for the pioneer travelers of that day, primarily because of its fortunate position at the junction of these railroads. It soon became apparent, however, that for other and more weighty reasons the travelers selected this city as a permanent headquarters, and Owatonna has continued to increase in importance as a traveling men's home.

The traveler is in a large measure a roving free lance as regards his home, and this is more from business necessity than from choice. When a change of territory requires him to select a new place of abode for his family, where they may be in reach of his business operations, he proceeds to consider the relative attractions of the various towns in his route. If he is to make weekly trips in covering his territory, the matter of adequate railroad facilities is perhaps of first importance in his thoughts, in order that his outgoing and homecoming may be as easy as possible. But even in this case, and especially when longer trips are made, the vital matter of accessibility sinks into secondary importance when considered in connection with the all important question of public health and morals, which is irrevocably bound up in the matter of a healthful location, added to the important question of a wise and farsighted civic government, good schools, and church, and a clean social atmosphere. These are of vital importance in the upbuilding and future contentment of any citizenship.

Fully 90 per cent of the commercial travelers of today are heads of families, and with these it may be truthfully stated that among no class of men are these questions held to be of greater importance. Owatonna is extremely fortunate above many other places in its possession of all of these attractions to a marked degree, thus it is easy to find the reasons why it is attractive to the traveling fraternity as a home or headquarters town. Situated as it is, on high rolling ground, gently sloping each way from a valley through which Straight river wends its course to the northward, the site on which the city is built is ideal, and the wisdom of its founders has been well demonstrated by the lapse of time. On a stretch of table-land to the east of the river stands today the business section of Owatonna, with the main residence district occupying ground to the east and south, which gradually rises until it reaches an elevation which averages about fifty feet above the level of the business district, and seventy-five feet above the river bed. Across the river immediately west of the business section of the city is a level stretch of land a few feet above high water mark, occupied by the depot and yards of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific railroad, and just west of the depot is a rise of perhaps forty feet sloping upward to the west until it reaches State avenue where the ground

stretches away in gentle waves of rolling green. Here is found another beautiful residence district where many fine homes are located, bounded on the north by the splendid grounds of the state public school, and on the west by magnificent lands occupied by the Clinton Falls Nursery Company, one of the largest business enterprises of its kind in the world.

From the foregoing description one can see that a perfect sewerage system may be built and maintained at a minimum cost, and this has been an accomplished fact for many years. The surface soil of the city is a fine mixture of clay, sand and gravel, in just the right proportion to form a solid surface for the streets, (which are all of good width,) and each heavy rain that comes washes the streets clean, thus insuring perfect cleanliness, that is unknown where deep mud abounds after the rains. Beautiful shade trees line the avenues everywhere, and the city water supply comes entirely from deep wells which have been sunk to a depth of about seventy-five feet to a rock foundation, giving forth an abundant supply of pure soft water, sufficient at all times to maintain a population many times the present size of Owatonna. Located just outside the corporate limits is the Springs park where the famous Owatonna vichy water bubbles out of the ground in an inexhaustible supply which is bottled and shipped in large quantities.

When it is stated that the sewerage tax of Owatonna is one mill, from which a fund is raised to maintain the system, besides providing a sinking fund with which to replace or add to the system as needed, and the further fact that the present extent of the system is twelve miles, and that the city charter limits the levy for all municipal purposes to twelve mills, (and this has been found to be fully ample to cover the needs of the city,) it may be seen that this place will appeal to the average traveler as an ideal spot in which to make his home. These, in fact, are some of the reasons why Owatonna has always been popular with the travelers, and the continued increase of this class of its population is the best evidence of its superior advantages.

One of the first travelers to cover this territory is the present postmaster of Owatonna, James M. Diment, who first came to this country thirty-eight years ago, and continued in this vocation for many years, until he became associated with others in the Owatonna Flouring mills, when he discontinued his road work and permanently identified himself with the future destiny of Owatonna, in the development of which he has been one of the leading factors. That Mr. Diment ably filled his place as a public-spirited citizen is well attested by his present popularity and the esteem in which he is held by his fellow citizens. Mr. Diment states that thirty years ago Owatonna boasted of hav-

ing from 125 to 150 traveling men among its citizenship, many of whom have since become prominent elsewhere, but where one has moved away, two have taken his place, until at this time there are approximately 250 to 300 men who make this city their home and whose vocation leads them out on the highways of commerce.

This chapter would not be complete without mentioning the existence in Owatonna of **Owatonna Council No. 85, United Commercial Travelers of America**, which is a branch of the strongest fraternal traveling men's order in existence. This order was founded at Columbus, Ohio, in 1888, and its rapid growth is evidenced by its present membership of over 60,000, with grand councils maintained in nearly every state in the union and the provinces of Canada. The present membership of Owatonna Council No. 85 is one hundred and fifty-five, and when it is understood that the constitution of the order limits its membership to commercial travelers, city salesmen and merchandise brokers selling articles of merchandise at wholesale, and excludes all that large class of men who are engaged in selling insurance in its various forms, buyers, canvassers, peddlers and many other traveling vocations too numerous to mention here, it can be seen that the membership of this order can only represent about 50 per cent of the total population who follow the vocation of traveling in all its forms.

At the present time there are about five hundred local councils of the Order of United Commercial Travelers of America scattered about throughout this mighty nation and the Dominion of Canada, at all of the principal trade centers and many of the smaller towns where travelers are making a home or headquarters in any considerable numbers, and Owatonna has the distinction of being the city in which the largest local council membership in proportion to the total population of the city, is maintained, in comparison with all other towns in which councils are located, and this is in addition to the fact that it was the sixth council instituted in the Northwest, being preceded only a few months by the councils of Duluth, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Grand Forks, Fargo and Winona.

The Grand Council of Minnesota and the Dakotas was instituted September 24, 1894, and Owatonna Council No. 85 the next year on December 28. This will indicate the relative importance of Owatonna in this regard and it is worthy of note that this relation is still maintained.

The charter list of Owatonna council contains thirteen well known names of prominent salesmen, one of whom still makes his home here. The charter list reveals the names of R. O. Philpot, who was in the employ of a Chicago concern; J. E. Shipman,



who traveled for C. Gotzam & Co., of St. Paul; G. E. Hunkins, in the employ of Dunham & Eastman; F. M. Crum, who for many years has been the representative of Selz, Schwab & Co., of Chicago, one of the largest shoe manufacturers in the world; M. Forde, in the employ of C. Gotzam & Co., of St. Paul; R. E. Looker, with J. S. Smith & Co., of Chicago; S. F. McClane, with the Owatonna Nursery Company; C. M. McLean, with the Pecos Valley Water Elevator Co., of El Reno, Oklahoma; F. H. Ellis, traveling for the Milwaukee Harvester Co.; A. J. Katz, with Ginterman Bros., of St. Paul; C. M. Irvin, with McKibbin & Co., St. Paul; E. M. Smith, with Page Fence Co., of Adrian, Mich., and A. A. Snell, with the McCormick Harvester Company, of Chicago.

The first officers selected to manage the affairs of the council were the following, J. E. Shipman, senior counselor; R. O. Philpot, past counselor; A. A. Snell, junior counselor; C. M. Irvin, secretary and treasurer; F. M. Crum, page, and A. J. Katz, sentinel. That the foundations of this local council were laid broad and deep, and its early finances handled wisely is evidenced by its present position and influence, and to these, the founders, a large measure of credit is due, and also to the many men upon whom the later burden was laid. The present officers of the council are as follows, Senior counselor, William Gausewitz; junior counselor, N. S. Jacobs; past counselor, O. A. Kubat; secretary-treasurer, A. L. Smith; conductor, Cline A. Tinchler; chaplain, G. J. Anderson; page, Jud. A. Morgan; sentinel, A. J. Koob; executive committee, H. K. Tompkins, M. J. Parcher, C. F. Hanson and P. J. Willetts.

The membership roll reveals the names of many men who are among the most prominent in the state, in business, social and political affairs. Among whom may be singled out for prominent mention is Anton Schaefer, who has always been an indefatigable worker in the U. C. T. organization, for many years the very efficient secretary and treasurer of Owatonna Council No. 85, being relieved from that office after the last election by his own urgent request. Mr. Schaefer is active in the affairs of the grand council and holds the important position of chairman of the grand executive committee which he is filling with great honor and wisdom.

Mr. Schaefer in politics is a consistent Democrat, and was placed on the state ticket of his party nearly six years ago as the candidate for railroad and warehouse commissioner. Later he was appointed as the state public examiner by Governor Johnson, which position he is filling at the present with great credit to himself and satisfaction to all the people of the state, as he

is universally regarded as one of the most efficient and conscientious public officials in the state.

The second name to be mentioned is that of Thomas E. Cashman, a past senior counselor of Owatonna council and a man who at all times may be depended on to advance the welfare of the order to the best of his ability; an alert, active business man, at the head of the Clinton Falls Nursery Company, as before stated, one of the largest concerns of its kind in existence, always a busy man, he still is finding time to work for his fellow man in whatever way his efforts may seem to best produce results, the present state senator from Steele county who has given such universal satisfaction to his constituents that his return is predicted by an increased majority; just appointed president of the State Horticultural Society which greatly enlarges his sphere of usefulness to society; an ex-mayor of his home city with a record for enforcing civic righteousness that is one of the high marks in the history of Owatonna—this is Thomas E. Cashman as seen by his neighbors.

William Gausewitz, the present energetic and efficient senior counselor of Owatonna Council No. 85, is the third man worthy of special mention in this class, a man who stands high in the business circles of Owatonna, an ex-state senator who filled that office with great credit and left a clean record as a public servant, ready at all times to do his part, and more, in the service of his fellow man. These are notable examples of the personnel of Owatonna council and stamps it as one of the organizations that must be reckoned with in the future of the city.

**W. B. Clarkson.**

Note—The important part that Mr. Clarkson, himself, has taken as a citizen and as a commercial traveler, is related elsewhere in his biography.—Editor.

### OWATONNA HOTELS.

Not only has Owatonna, since the early days, been the home of many commercial men, as related by W. B. Clarkson, in the above article, but it has also been the stopping place of hordes of travelers, both commercial and social, since the first settlement. It has therefore been deemed wise to note here, the history of the various hostelries of the city, past and present. It might be mentioned in this connection that the Owatonna House, which is one of the finest hotels in this part of the state, is regarded as home by many commercial travelers who do not maintain residences in the city of Owatonna.

**Pioneer Hotel.** The first hotel in Owatonna was the Winship

House, which was opened by N. P. Winship in 1855, on the site which the building still occupies. The structure then was a log cabin, twenty-two by sixteen feet in size, and from the travel that passed through here, this little hostelry became one of the best known landmarks of southern Minnesota in early times. In 1857, an addition, twelve by twenty-two feet in size, was erected. N. P. Winship remained in management til 1894, when his son, Ernest T., became the owner of the property, a Mr. Slonaker conducting the place, as agent, for the next three years. Mrs. Susana Deutschman (widow) then purchased the property, and later rented it to John Vollerson, subsequently assuming management herself. Mr. Healing was the next renter of the premises, being followed a few months later by Otto Stahmer, and then Mrs. Deutschmann conducted the establishment for a period, thereafter letting the place to Hubert Rockwood for several years, subsequently taking charge in person for a short while. Otto Stahmer, the present owner, was the next occupant, coming in in 1905 and purchasing the property the following year. In 1907, he gave the hotel its present name, and has since added many modern improvements and remodeled the building throughout.

**Central House.** Late in 1855 a hotel was opened in A. B. Cornell's log cabin, by Philo Sanford. It was located on the bank of the river, near where G. F. Albertus' residence now stands. In 1857, Mr. Sanford erected what was then known as the American House, and later as the Central House, which stands just west of the Morehouse block, on Broadway. After a year or two A. Town purchased the property, and it has since changed hands a number of times. M. A. McAndrews became proprietor of the place in the late eighties, and it was later sold to James E. Mooney, who discontinued its use as a hotel after a short experience in that line of business.

**Owatonna House** (former.) The one time Owatonna House was built and opened during the war by George Leick. Several years later, it was purchased by Mr. Engel, and at the time of his death he was succeeded by his son, William Engel, who carried on the business for a number of years, and then disposed of the property to Harry Conklin, ending its history as a hotel.

**Norsk Hotel.** The Scandinavian House, now known as the Norsk Hotel, was built in 1866 by John M. Joos. For a number of years it was rented, and finally came into the possession of Ole Elton, who conducted the place for a good many years, ably assisted by his wife. Mrs. Elton has had entire charge for the last twenty years or more.

**German Hotel.** In 1866, John Bartsch erected and opened the German Hotel near the depot. He ran it until the time of his

death, which occurred in November, 1881, and his widow conducted the business for some time afterward, subsequently selling out to John Roach, who continued the hotel until about 1900, when the building was almost totally destroyed by fire. Shortly afterwards, the Washington Tool Company purchased the site and erected the factory they still occupy.

**The Arnold House** was erected in 1866 by B. L. Arnold. Mr. Arnold sold to Charles Hastings, who conducted it until 1882, when the property was purchased by C. Tryon. Under his management the hotel acquired a large and well deserved custom. After his death, about 1890, his widow conducted the business for a year or two, and then married G. Bronson, who was very successful in the management of the hotel, and built up an extensive patronage. In July, 1901, a fire wiped out over half the building, and it has never been entirely rebuilt. After an interval of a few months, Mr. Bronson opened again, but shortly afterwards let the establishment to a Mrs. Smith, who remained as a proprietor three or four months, Mr. Bronson then taking charge for a short period, and subsequently selling to Charles Wheeler. Mr. Wheeler operated the hotel for a little less than a year, and then disposed of the property to D. W. Douglas, who a year later, in 1905, sold to Charles Green, Jane E. Green, Mr. Green's sister, becoming proprietor and remaining as such till the early part of 1910, when the property passed into the hands of the Minnesota Park Association, of Minneapolis, the present owners. The premises were immediately rented to Mrs. John Parcher, the present proprietor.

**The Tremont House** was built in 1867 by Mr. Cory. He sold to John Parcher, and later it passed into the hands of J. Oppliger, who used it as a dwelling house for a time. In 1876, W. Nickerson purchased the property and operated it as a hotel under the name of the Nickerson House, being succeeded by his son Charles, who was in turn succeeded by William Snyder. About 1890, the building was almost totally wrecked by a terrific windstorm, and further damaged by lightning. Shortly afterwards the site was purchased by the Catholic church and the present St. Joseph's cathedral erected.

**City Hotel.** In 1868, O. H. Wensell and Oliver Nelson erected and opened a house which they christened the City Hotel. A year later it was purchased by E. B. Crooker, and in 1870 he sold to Appleton Hale, who conducted the business for the next five years, and then disposed of the property to James and George Peachey, the place becoming known as the Peachey House. In 1880, George Peachey bought out his brother's interest and remained as sole proprietor till 1890, when G. J.



Kaplan acquired the property, and after a year or two discontinued its use as a hotel.

**The Robinson House**, then known as the American House, was built in 1875 by James Connell. After changing hands several times the property came into the possession of L. Robinson about 1880, who conducted the hotel, together with his wife, until his death in 1897. Since that time his wife, Mary B. Robinson, has carried on the business very successfully. In 1901, a disastrous fire destroyed over half of the building, but Mrs. Robinson immediately rebuilt, enlarging the old structure and adding modern improvements throughout, hot water heat, electric lights and other conveniences.

**Merchants' Hotel.** In 1880, Dr. E. M. Morehouse erected a three-story brick building, which was opened as the Commercial Hotel in 1884, by Elmer E. Cane. Two years later, W. D. Snyder became proprietor, remaining as such until about 1891, when he was succeeded by O. E. Edson, who changed the name of the place to the Merchants' Hotel, and conducted the business for a little over a year. In 1892, the use of the property as a hotel ceased, though five years later a portion of the upper story was fitted and has since been used as an addition to the present Owatonna House.

**Church's Hotel**, at present known as the Winona Hotel, was built and opened by John Church in 1885. Shortly afterwards, F. D. Albro became proprietor, and in 1890 G. J. Kaplan entered into possession, and the place became known as the Kaplan House. Shortly afterwards he rented the property to John Church, the former owner, and after passing through the hands of several renters—all the time being conducted as a hotel—the premises were sold to Frank W. Steinbauer, who gave the place the name it now bears. April 15, 1909, Jacob Weiler purchased the property, which he still owns. Fred Austin is the present occupant, but conducts the establishment as a rooming house only.

**Owatonna House.** In the summer of 1887, Dr. E. M. Morehouse began the erection of a magnificent four-story brick block, now widely known as the home of the Owatonna House, one of the most popular hotels in this section of the state among travelers who appreciate the hospitality of the highest type of a modern hotel. The house was thoroughly furnished and fitted in the most up-to-date and palatial manner during the year 1893, being opened with appropriate ceremonies and splendor January 1, 1894, by J. W. Gill, who conducted the business very successfully until 1898, when he was succeeded by Frank E. Grove. He was followed a year later by the Foster Brothers, who remained until 1900, when the hotel came under its present



management of Morehouse Brothers and J. W. Adsit, T. N. Morehouse acting as proprietor up to 1905. Since that time J. W. Adsit has been in charge, and has continued the progressive methods of his predecessors, firmly establishing himself in the hearts of the traveling public. New improvements have been added from year to year, and the equipment is always maintained in the highest state of efficiency. The new dining room, added in 1908, ranks with the best in the Northwest in appointments and general arrangement. As evidence of the favor with which this hotel has met, it may be noted that scarcely three years after its beginning, its increasing patronage compelled the opening of a part of the old Merchants' Hotel as an addition.

**Depue and Wood.** In 1895, David Depue and A. E. Wood opened a hotel on West Broadway, almost directly across from the Owatonna House. They continued in business as joint proprietors—their establishment being simply known as the "Depue and Wood Place"—until 1904, when Mr. Wood retired from the firm. A year later Mr. Depue removed from the premises, ending their use for hotel purposes.

**The Farmers' Hotel** was erected and opened by Peter Anderson about 1895. He sold in 1903, to N. P. Christensen, which ended the use of the property as a hotel.

## CHAPTER XIX.

### OWATONNA OFFICERS.

**Incorporated as a City.—Minutes of First Council Meeting.—  
Changes in City Charter.—City Limits.—Officers of the City.  
—City and School Bond Issues.**

Owatonna's transition from a hamlet to a full-fledged city was made February 23, 1865, when the state legislature passed a bill giving it a charter. George B. Hall, W. R. Kinyon, A. M. Kinyon, Judge N. M. Donaldson, Dr. David Harsha and J. W. Morford were chief among the leading citizens who were instrumental in bringing this about. Section one of article one, reading as follows, best describes the territory included in the incorporate limits: "That all that district of county situate in the county of Steele and state of Minnesota, known and described as sections three, four, nine, ten, fifteen and sixteen, and the west one-half of sections number two, eleven and fourteen, and the east one-half of sections number five, eight and seventeen, in township one hundred and seven north, range number twenty west, shall be a city by the name of Owatonna." During the next twenty years various amendments were added from time to time, those of 1868, providing more specifically as to the election of the city officers and their terms, and entrusted the appointment of a city surveyor and attorney to the council. The year 1875 saw the next changes, the entire charter appearing to have been re-codified, but nothing seems to have been materially changed. An amendment of March 7, 1878, re-divided the city, making four wards of it in place of three, and a year later the boundaries of the wards were placed as they were up to the time of the adoption of the present charter. The special laws of '79 gives it as follows: "The said city is hereby divided into four wards, as follows: By a straight line running from the north to the south limits of said city, drawn through the center of Cedar street, intersected by a straight line running from the east to the west limits of said city, drawn through the center of Bridge street, and said wards shall be numbered and designated as follows: The southeast division shall be numbered the first ward. The northeast division shall be numbered the second ward. The northwest division shall be numbered the third ward. The southwest division shall be numbered the fourth ward." February 10

and 13, 1885, amendments were passed by the state legislature, amending the charter of the city of Owatonna by giving the school board the power to submit estimate of money needed for coming year for school purposes, and to have this amount levied. A municipal court was established in Owatonna March 7, 1889, taking the place of the court presided over by the city justice. The same year the council was authorized to assess part of the expense of laying water and sewerage property against abutting property. No other charges of any consequence have since been made, the present charter adopted at the March election of 1909 remedying all evils thought to be in the old.

The first steps were taken toward the securing of a new charter in 1906, when application was made to the district court for the appointment of a charter commission to draw up a charter for submission to the people under the home-rule law of 1896. Carl K. Bennett, Thomas E. Cashman, Charles S. Crandall, William Gausewitz, Patrick J. Kiernan, Harlan E. Leach, Willis F. Sawyer, Wesley A. Sperry, Lewis L. Wheelock, John Smith, John Lynard, Albert L. Sperry, Rasmus G. Nelson, Louis F. Hammel and Benjamin E. Darby were appointed as such commission, and immediately proceeded to draw up a charter which was submitted to the voters at a special election held January 30, 1906, but failed to secure the necessary four-sevenths vote. Another charter was then drafted which met with the approval of the people at the regular March election of 1909. This charter is still in force and has seemed to meet the needs of the city. Another ward was added, making five, only one alderman is elected from each ward in place of two under the old charter, but two are elected at large for a term of four years. The aldermen from the wards are elected for two years as previously. No constables or justices of the peace are provided for. All other officers are elected for two years, excepting the municipal judge who has a four-year term. The city attorney, assessor, engineer, and weighmaster are now appointed by the council. The engineer attends to the duties of the old street commissioner and city surveyor, and is a member of a Board of Public Works, created by the charter and consisting of the mayor, clerk and engineer, which supervises all expenditures of money and has charge and control of the water and sewer systems and other public utilities. Under the present charter the power to grant an exclusive franchise is not given the council; no land owner can get land taken out of the corporate limits by petition to the district court, and no person can bring an action for damages against the city for injuries caused by a defective sidewalk unless they have given the council notice of the condition of the sidewalk at least five days previous to the

accident. Another important provision in the present charter gives the council the right to regulate the rates of corporations dealing in public utilities.

Section three of chapter one of the charter best gives the territory included in the respective wards. "The city shall be divided into five (5) wards, as follows: The first ward shall include all that portion of the city lying east of the center line of Cedar street and south of the center line of Main street and south of the center line of what is known as the Rice Lake road east of the point where said Rice Lake road intersects said Main street.

"The second ward shall include all that portion of the city lying east of the center line of Cedar street, north of the center line of Main street and the center line of the Rice Lake road east of the point where the said Rice Lake road intersects said Main street, and south of the center line of Rose street.

"The third ward shall include all that portion of the city lying west of the center line of Cedar street and north of the center line of Bridge street.

"The fourth ward shall include all that portion of the city lying west of the center line of Cedar street and south of the center line of Bridge street.

"The fifth ward shall include all that portion of the city lying east of the center line of Cedar street and north of the center line of Rose street."

---

The first meeting of the Owatonna city council of which there is any official record occurred April 10, 1865. The minutes are as follows: "Meeting of council, April 10, 1865. Council called to order by mayor. Present: George B. Hall, mayor; W. H. Willsey, W. R. Kinyon, J. B. Crooker, J. A. Oppliger, John Donaldson and William Scruby, aldermen; and A. M. Kinyon, recorder. Moved and seconded that we proceed to canvass the votes of the election held April 4, A. D. 1865. Carried. Proceeded to canvass votes. The following named men were declared elected to the offices hereafter named, to-wit: mayor, George B. Hall; city justice, A. N. Stoughton; city recorder, A. M. Kinyon; assessor, James W. Dryser; school director at large, D. S. Harsha and C. L. Tappan; alderman first ward, W. H. Willsey for two years, W. R. Kinyon for one year; alderman second ward, J. A. Oppliger for two years, J. B. Crooker for one year; alderman third ward, William Scruby for two years, John Donaldson for one year; school director first ward, Seth Hotchkiss; school director second ward, A. Town; school director third ward, D. W. Burch; justice of the peace first ward, A. Chambers; justice of the peace second ward, G. P. Reyner;

justice of the peace, third ward, Philo Bliss; constable, first ward, James Cornwell; constable, second ward, William Curtis; constable third ward, J. B. Hooker.

"Proceeded to appoint officers as per charter, to-wit: J. B. Hooker, city treasurer; J. B. Searles, city attorney; F. Bixby, city surveyor; W. Wheaton, city marshal.

"Moved and seconded that the recorder be instructed to procure a suitable book to keep city records in and stationery for the use of the common council. Carried.

"Moved and seconded that the compensation of the city attorney for the ensuing year shall be twenty-five dollars. Carried.

"Moved and seconded that the recorder be allowed seventy-five dollars per annum for his services. Carried.

"Moved and seconded that the city treasurer be required to give bonds in the sum of \$1,000.00. Carried.

"Moved and seconded that we adjourn to seven p. m., April 17, 1865. Carried.

"George B. Hall, Mayor.

"A. M. Kinyon, Recorder."

The officers of Owatonna have been as follows:

**1865-66.** Mayor, G. B. Hall; recorder, A. M. Kinyon; assessor, J. W. Dresser; treasurer, J. B. Hooker; city marshal, W. Wheaton; city justice, A. N. Stoughton; city attorney, J. B. Searles; city surveyor, L. Bixby; official paper, "Plaindealer." First ward: Aldermen, W. H. Willsey, W. R. Kinyon; justice, A. Chambers; street commissioner, S. N. Sargent; constable, James Connell. Second ward: Aldermen, J. A. Oppliger, J. B. Crooker; justice, I. P. Requa; street commissioner, A. Odell; constable, Wm. Curtis. Third ward: Aldermen, W. Scruby, J. Donaldson; justice, Philo Bliss; street commissioner, M. H. Franklin; constable, J. B. Hooker. Board of education: At large, D. S. Harsha, C. L. Tappan; first ward, Seth Hotchkiss; second ward, A. Town; third ward, D. W. Burch.

**1866-67.** Mayor, A. N. Stoughton; recorders, A. M. Kinyon, C. S. Crandall; assessor, J. Chambers; treasurer, G. B. Hall; street commissioner, S. N. Sargeant; city marshal, W. Wheaton; city justice, C. C. Cornell; city attorney, J. B. Searles; city surveyor, L. Bixby; official paper, "Plaindealer." First ward: Aldermen, W. H. Willsey, W. R. Kinyon; constable, James Connell; justice, A. Chambers. Second ward: Aldermen, J. Newsalt, H. C. Eldred; justice, I. P. Requa; constable, William Curtis. Third ward: Aldermen, William Scruby, H. J. Lewis, J. A. Oppliger; justice, Philo Bliss; constables, C. G. Smith, H. A. Tiffany. Board of education: At large, D. S. Harsha,



C. L. Tappan; First ward, Seth Hotchkiss; Second ward, A. Town; Third ward, D. W. Burch.

**1867-68.** Mayor, S. B. Washburn; recorder, Isaac W. Burch; assessor, L. E. Rawson; treasurer, G. B. Hall; street commissioners, H. J. Lewis, C. L. Gardner; city marshal, M. J. Toher; city justice, H. H. Johnson; city attorney, J. B. Searles; city surveyor, J. H. Abbott; official paper, "Journal." First ward: Aldermen, W. R. Kinyon, Clarke Chambers, W. H. Willsey; constable, Levi Frank; justice, Addison Phelps. Second ward: Aldermen, H. C. Eldred, N. Winship, J. Donaldson; constable, none; justice, H. A. Beers. Third ward: Aldermen, J. A. Oppiger, J. Donaldson, J. S. Fuller; constable, I. W. Hanks; justice, M. F. Lowth. Board of education: At large, D. S. Harsha, S. S. Russell; First ward, S. Hotchkiss, I. J. Fuller; Second ward, A. Town; Third ward, D. W. Burch.

**1868-69.** Mayor, J. W. Morford; recorder, Isaac W. Burch; assessor, E. Scannel; treasurer, S. Hotchkiss; street commissioner, A. Phelps; city marshal, I. W. Hanks; city justice, H. H. Johnson; city attorney, H. B. Searles; city surveyor, J. H. Abbott; official paper, "Journal." First ward: Aldermen, C. Chambers, J. A. Armstrong, Chas. Dennijes; constables, none; justice, Wm. Dean. Second ward: Aldermen, N. Winship, D. B. Marble; constable, J. B. Hooker; justice, H. A. Beers. Third ward: Aldermen, T. J. Howe, K. D. Chase; justice, Wm. Davidson; constable, I. W. Hanks. Board of education: At large, S. S. Russell, S. B. Washburne; First ward, I. J. Fuller; Second ward, P. S. Smith, John Odell; Third ward, Wm. Davidson.

**1869-70.** Mayor, A. N. Stoughton; recorder, Isaac W. Burch; assessor, E. Scannel; treasurer, J. Chambers; street commissioner, M. J. Toher; city marshal, I. W. Hanks; city justice, H. A. Beers; city attorney, J. B. Searles; city surveyor, J. H. Abbott; official paper, "Journal." First ward: Aldermen, J. A. Armstrong, Lewis Lord; constable, James Connell; justice, T. G. Patch. Second ward: Aldermen, D. B. Marble, L. E. Rawson; justice, L. B. Town; constable, H. A. Tiffany. Third ward: Aldermen, K. D. Chase, T. J. Howe, H. Backus; constable, I. W. Hanks; justice, Philo Bliss. Board of education: At large, G. B. Hall, M. F. Lowth; First ward, B. F. Melvin; Second ward, John Odell, D. S. Harsha; Third ward, D. W. Burch.

**1870-71.** Mayor, H. H. Johnson; recorder, Isaac Burch; assessor, Seth Hotchkiss; treasurer, J. Chambers; street commissioner, L. Gilbert; city marshal, I. W. Hanks; city justice, H. A. Beers; city attorney, J. B. Searles; city surveyor, J. H. Abbott; official paper, "Journal." First ward: Aldermen, J. A. Armstrong, R. C. Olin, Lewis Lord; constable, James Cornell;

justice, T. G. Patch. Second ward: Aldermen, D. B. Marble, L. E. Rawson; constable, E. R. Fenno; justice, Samuel Collins. Third ward: Aldermen, T. J. Howe, H. Backus; justice, Philo Bliss; constable, I. W. Hanks. Board of education: At large, G. B. Hall, G. C. Tanner; First ward, Charles S. Crandall; Second ward, D. S. Harsha; Third ward, D. W. Burch.

**1871-72.** Mayor, R. C. Olin; recorder, Isaac W. Burch; assessor, Seth Hotchkiss; treasurer, J. Chambers; street commissioner, James Cotter; city marshal, I. W. Hanks; city justice, H. H. Johnson; city attorney, Lewis L. Wheelock; city surveyor, J. H. Abbott; official paper, "Journal." First ward: Aldermen, R. C. Olin, T. W. Irving, W. H. Sherman; constable, James Connell; justice, T. G. Patch. Second ward: Aldermen, D. B. Marble, E. A. Tyler; justice, M. L. Blair; constable, R. G. Chittenden. Third ward: Aldermen, H. Backus, J. E. Buxton; justice, J. S. Austin; constable, O. G. Evenson. Board of education: At large, G. C. Tanner, Lewis L. Wheelock; First ward, Charles S. Crandall; Second ward, E. H. S. Dartt; Third ward, D. W. Burch.

**1872-73.** Mayors, W. H. Kelly, J. A. Oppliger; recorder, Isaac W. Burch; assessor, Seth Hotchkiss; treasurer, Joseph Chambers; street commissioner, S. J. Loomis; city marshal, D. Whipple; city justice, H. H. Johnson; city attorney, J. M. Burlingame; city surveyor, B. S. Wheeler; official paper, "Journal." First ward: Aldermen, T. W. Irving, W. H. Sherman, W. H. Willsey; justice, T. G. Patch; constable, James Connell. Second ward: Aldermen, E. A. Tyler, A. C. Dodge; justice, C. C. Cornell; constable, D. Whipple. Third ward: Aldermen, H. Backus, J. E. Buxton; justice J. S. Austin; constable, A. E. Simons. Board of education: At large, Lewis L. Wheelock, G. C. Tanner; First ward, Chas. S. Crandall; Second ward, E. H. S. Dartt; Third ward, D. W. Burch.

**1873-74.** Mayor, T. J. Howe; recorder, Isaac W. Burch; assessor, D. W. Burch; treasurer, Joseph Chambers; street commissioner, S. J. Loomis; city marshal, E. L. Paddock; city justice, T. G. Patch; city attorney, J. M. Burlingame; city surveyor, B. S. Wheeler; official paper, "Journal." First ward: Aldermen, T. W. Irving, Seth Hotchkiss; justice, H. H. Johnson; constable, Theo. Dean. Second Ward: Aldermen, A. C. Dodge, Titus Case; justice, C. C. Cornell; constable, E. R. Fenno. Third ward: Aldermen, H. Backus, J. E. Buxton; justice, Wm. Davidson; constable, H. A. Tiffany. Board of education: At large, G. C. Tanner, John A. Spelman; First ward, A. N. Stoughton; Second ward, E. H. S. Dartt; Third ward, D. W. Burch.

**1874-75.** Mayor, T. J. Howe; recorder, Isaac W. Burch; as-

essor, Seth Hotchkiss; treasurer, Joseph Chambers; street commissioner, P. Brennan; city marshal, S. H. Stowers; city justices, T. G. Patch, N. M. Donaldson; city attorney, J. M. Burlingame; city surveyor, J. H. Abbott; official paper, "Journal." First ward: Aldermen, Seth Hotchkiss, Clarke Chambers; justice, H. H. Johnson; constable, P. R. Pike. Second ward: Aldermen, Titus Case, N. M. Donaldson; justice, Isaac Howe; constable, G. F. Doolittle. Third ward: Aldermen, J. E. Buxton, Geo. Wilson; justice, Wm. Davidson; constable, H. A. Tiffany. Board of education: At large, G. C. Tanner, John A. Spelman; First ward, A. N. Stoughton; Second ward, E. H. S. Dartt; Third ward, H. W. Pratt.

**1875-76.** Mayor, T. J. Howe; recorder, Isaac W. Burch; assessor, Seth Hotchkiss; treasurer, J. Chambers; street commissioner, P. Brennan; city marshal, S. H. Stowers; city justice, N. M. Donaldson; city attorney, J. M. Burlingame; city surveyor, J. H. Abbott; official paper, "Journal." First ward: Aldermen, Clarke Chambers, A. Knobloch; justice, H. H. Johnson; constable, S. H. Stowers. Second ward: Aldermen, N. M. Donaldson, E. Donaldson; justices, Isaac Howe, H. A. Beers; constable, Wm. Furman. Third ward: Aldermen, J. E. Buxton, Geo. Willson; justice, Wm. Davidson; constable, H. A. Tiffany. Board of education: At large, G. C. Tanner, J. C. Ellis; First ward, A. N. Stoughton; Second ward, E. H. S. Dartt; Third ward, H. W. Pratt.

**1876-77.** Mayor, N. M. Donaldson; recorder, Isaac W. Burch; assessor, L. E. Rawson; treasurer, J. Chambers; street commissioner, P. Brennan; city marshal, J. B. Putney; city justice, N. M. Donaldson; city attorney, J. M. Burlingame; city surveyor, J. H. Abbott; official paper, "People's Press." First ward: Aldermen, A. Knobloch, J. R. Fox; justice, H. H. Johnson; constable, George Van Dusen. Second ward: Aldermen, E. Donaldson, J. C. Ellis; justice, H. A. Beers; constable, Wm. Furman. Third ward: Aldermen, E. Easton, Jas. Thompson; justice, Wm. Davidson; constable, H. A. Tiffany. Board of education: At large, H. W. Pratt, J. C. Ellis; First ward, W. A. Dynes, R. H. Chapin; Second ward, E. H. S. Dartt; Third ward, C. G. Earley.

**1877-78.** Mayor, M. A. Fredenburg; recorder, Isaac W. Burch; assessor, E. Easton; treasurer, Joseph Chambers; street commissioner, P. Brennan; city marshal, S. H. Stowers; city justice, N. M. Donaldson; city attorney, J. M. Burlingame; city surveyor, J. H. Abbott; official paper, "Review." First ward: Aldermen, J. R. Fox, A. Knobloch; justice, H. F. Luce; constable, none. Second ward: Aldermen, E. Donaldson, J. C. Ellis; justice, H. A. Beers; constable, E. M. Arnold. Third

ward: Aldermen, James Thompson, C. H. Randall; justice, E. C. Culver; constable, H. A. Tiffany. Board of education: At large, J. S. Woodard, Lewis Lord; First ward, G. C. Tanner; Second ward, W. A. Dynes; Third ward, T. J. Howe.

1879-80. Mayor, J. C. Ellis; recorder, I. W. Burch; assessor, E. Easton; treasurer, Joseph Chambers; street commissioner, J. C. Ault; city marshal, D. Whipple; city justice, C. C. Cornell; city attorney, J. M. Burlingame; city surveyor, J. H. Abbott; official paper, "Owatonna Journal." First ward: Aldermen, Lorin Andrews, A. C. Gutterson; justice, H. F. Luce; constable, W. C. Hadley. Second ward: Aldermen, J. E. Buxton, G. W. Rockwood; justice, A. B. Barrett; constable, D. W. Williamson. Third ward: Aldermen, J. C. Backus, G. F. Albertus; justice, R. B. Newhall; constable, Geo. W. Peachey. Fourth ward: Aldermen, H. Schmidt, E. M. Morehouse; justice, none; constable, S. H. Stowers. Board of education: At large, J. C. Ellis, James Cotter, J. E. Truesdell; First ward, L. L. Wheelock; Second ward, W. A. Dynes; Third ward, T. J. Howe; Fourth ward, Chas. Dennijes.

1880-81. Mayor, J. C. Ellis; recorder, Charles Dawson; assessor, E. Easton; treasurer, Joseph Chambers; street commissioner, J. C. Ault; city marshal, D. Whipple; city justice, C. C. Cornell; city attorney, L. L. Wheelock; city surveyor, J. H. Abbott; official paper, "Owatonna Journal." First ward: Aldermen, Lorin Andrews, A. C. Gutterson; justice, H. F. Luce; constable, W. C. Hadley. Second ward: Aldermen, J. E. Buxton, Henry Birkett; justice, A. B. Barrett; constable, H. A. Tiffany. Third ward: Aldermen, G. F. Albertus, E. M. Morehouse; justice, R. B. Newhall; constable, Geo. W. Peachey. Fourth ward: Aldermen, Herman Schmidt, John Hammell; justice, H. A. Beers; constable, A. Hafemann. Board of education: At large, James Cotter, A. C. Hickman; First ward, L. L. Wheelock; Second ward, W. A. Dynes; Third ward, T. J. Howe; Fourth ward, Chas. Dennijes.

1881-82. Mayor, B. S. Cook; recorder, Charles Dawson; treasurer, R. B. Newhall; street commissioner, J. C. Ault; city marshal, I. U. Jones; city justice, H. A. Beers; city attorney, H. E. Johnson; city surveyor, J. H. Abbott; official paper, "People's Press." First ward: Aldermen, A. C. Gutterson, J. E. Truesdell; justice, H. F. Luce; constable, W. C. Hadley. Second ward: Aldermen, Henry Birkett, E. Scannel; justice, A. B. Barrett; constable, H. A. Tiffany. Third ward: Aldermen, G. F. Albertus, E. M. Morehouse; justice, R. B. Newhall; constable, J. C. Johnson. Fourth ward: Aldermen, John Hammel, H. Schmidt; justice, H. A. Beers; constable, O. Tiffany. Board of education: At large, A. C. Hickman, James Cotter;



First ward, L. L. Wheelock; Second ward, W. A. Dynes; Third ward, A. Simpson; Fourth ward, Chas. Dennijes.

**1882-83.** Mayor, B. S. Cook; recorder, C. E. Luce; assessor, E. Easton; treasurer, H. H. Luers; street commissioners, J. C. Ault; city marshal, I. U. Jones; city justice, H. A. Beers; city attorney, H. E. Johnson; city surveyor, J. H. Abbott; official paper, "Steele County Herald." First ward: Aldermen, J. E. Truesdell, John Chambers; justice, H. F. Luce; constable, W. C. Hadley. Second ward: Aldermen, E. Scannel, S. S. Green; justice, M. A. Fredenburg; constable, H. A. Tiffany. Third ward: Aldermen, E. M. Morehouse, G. F. Albertus; justice, none; constable, Ignatius Kremer. Fourth ward: Aldermen, Peter Ganser, Herman Schmidt; justice, H. A. Beers; constable, O. Tiffany. Board of education: At large, James Cotter, A. C. Hickman; First ward, L. L. Wheelock; Second ward, W. A. Dynes; Third ward, A. Simpson; Fourth ward, E. Y. Hunnewill.

**1883-84.** Mayor, H. Birkett; recorder, C. E. Luce; assessor, E. Easton; treasurer, C. J. Kinyon; street commissioner, J. C. Ault; city marshal, John Thorson; city justice, M. A. Fredenburg; city attorney, E. W. Richter; city surveyor, J. H. Abbott; official paper, "Owatonna Journal." First ward: Aldermen, John Chambers, J. E. Truesdell; justice, H. F. Luce; constable, R. H. Johnson. Second ward: Aldermen, S. S. Green, J. C. Ellis, H. H. Luers; justice, M. A. Fredenburg; constable, W. H. Shoemaker. Third ward: Aldermen, G. F. Albertus, Frank Stimson, J. D. Holden; justice, J. D. Holden; constable, Ignatius Kremer. Fourth ward: Aldermen, Peter Ganser, Herman Schmidt; justice, H. A. Beers; constable, O. Tiffany. Board of education: At large, A. C. Hickman, James Cotter; First ward, L. L. Wheelock; Second ward, W. A. Dynes; Third ward, A. Simpson; Fourth ward, E. Y. Hunnewill.

**1884-85.** Mayor, John Shea; recorder, C. E. Luce; assessor, E. Easton; treasurer, C. J. Kinyon; street commissioner, J. C. Ault; city marshal, R. White; city justice, M. A. Fredenburg; city attorney, E. W. Richter; city surveyor, J. H. Abbott; official paper, "People's Press." First ward: Aldermen, J. E. Truesdell, M. J. Toher; justice, H. F. Luce; constable, R. H. Johnson. Second ward: Aldermen, S. S. Green, J. Z. Barncard; justice, O. Abernethy; constable, W. H. Shoemaker. Third ward: Aldermen, E. M. Morehouse, J. Glaeser; justice, O. M. Hammond; constable, Ignatius Kremer. Fourth ward: Aldermen, Peter Ganser, Herman Schmidt; justice, H. A. Beers; constable, O. Tiffany. Board of education: At large, J. A. Cotter, T. J. Howe; First ward, W. A. Sperry; Second ward, W. A. Dynes; Third ward, Lewis Lord; Fourth ward, E. Y. Hunnewill.

**1885-86.** Mayor, C. N. McLaughlin; recorder, C. E. Luce;



assessor, E. Easton; treasurer, C. J. Kinyon; street commissioner, J. C. Ault; city marshal, R. White; city justice, A. N. Stoughton; city attorney, E. W. Richter; city surveyor, A. M. Mitchell; official paper, "People's Press." First ward: Aldermen, M. J. Toher, N. C. Larson; justice, H. F. Luce; constable, R. H. Johnson. Second ward: Aldermen, S. S. Green, J. Z. Barncard; justice, M. A. Fredenburg; constable, H. R. Thompson. Third ward: Aldermen, E. M. Morehouse, E. W. Piper; justice, William Davidson; constable, Ignatius Kremer. Fourth ward: Aldermen, Peter Ganser, Charles Schoen; justice, C. C. Cornell; constable, Herman Lee. Board of education: At large, George E. Peck, T. J. Howe; First ward, W. A. Sperry; Second ward, W. A. Dynes; Third ward, Lewis Lord; Fourth ward, E. Y. Hunnewill.

**1886-87.** Mayor, R. H. Kelly; recorder, C. E. Luce; assessor, E. Easton; treasurer, G. D. Holden; street commissioner, J. C. Ault; city marshal, R. H. Johnson; city justice, A. N. Stoughton; city attorney, J. M. Burlingame; city surveyor, A. M. Mitchell; official paper, "Journal and Herald." First ward: Aldermen, N. C. Larson, C. W. Hadley; justice, H. F. Luce; constable, R. H. Johnson. Second ward: Aldermen, Henry Birkett, James Brown; justice, M. A. Fredenburg; constable, H. R. Thompson. Third ward: Aldermen, E. W. Piper, Dr. E. M. Morehouse; justice, William Davidson; constable, Ignatius Kremer. Fourth ward: Aldermen, Peter Ganser, Charles Schoen; justice, A. Moncrieff; constable, George Putney. Board of education: At large, T. J. Howe, G. E. Peck; First ward, W. A. Sperry; Second ward, W. A. Dynes; Third ward, L. Lord; Fourth ward, E. Y. Hunnewill.

**1887-88.** Mayor, M. B. Pratt; recorder, C. E. Luce; assessor, J. S. Austin; treasurer, A. N. Stoughton; street commissioner, John Quinn; city marshal, R. H. Johnson; city justice, J. Newsalt; city attorney, Amos Coggsell; city surveyor, A. M. Mitchell; official paper, "People's Press." First ward: Aldermen, C. W. Hadley, N. C. Larson; justice, H. F. Luce; constable, R. H. Johnson. Second ward: Aldermen, Henry Birkett, James Brown; justice, M. A. Fredenburg;\* constable, H. A. Tiffany. Third ward: Aldermen, Dr. E. M. Morehouse, G. F. Albertus; justice, J. H. Soukup; constable, John Ganser. Fourth ward: Aldermen, Peter Ganser, Joseph Hoffman; justice, A. Moncrieff; constable, H. Lee. Board of education: At large, T. J. Howe, J. Schmidt; First ward, W. A. Sperry; Second ward, W. A. Dynes; Third ward, H. Cartright; Fourth ward, E. Y. Hunnewill.

---

\*Mr. Fredenburg died shortly after his reelection to this office.

**1888-89.** Mayor, A. C. Gutterson; recorder, C. E. Luce; treasurer, A. N. Stoughton; street commissioner, J. C. Ault; assessor, J. S. Austin; marshal, R. H. Johnson; city justice, J. Newsalt; attorney, L. L. Wheelock; official paper, "Journal and Herald"; surveyor, A. M. Mitchell. First ward: Aldermen, C. W. Hadley, N. C. Larson; justice, H. F. Luce; constable, W. D. Snyder. Second ward: Aldermen, James Brown, C. J. Kinyon; justice, M. B. Chadwick; constable, H. A. Tiffany. Third ward: Aldermen, E. M. Morehouse, G. F. Albertus; justice, J. H. Soukup; constable, J. P. Ganser. Fourth ward: Aldermen, Joseph Hoffman, C. F. Backus; justice, C. Schoen; constable, Fred Mueller. Board of education: At large, Lewis Lord, H. Schmidt; First ward, W. A. Sperry; Second ward, W. A. Dynes; Third ward, H. Cartwright; Fourth ward, E. Y. Hunnewill.

**1889-90.** Mayor, E. M. Morehouse; recorder, C. E. Luce; treasurer, A. N. Stoughton; street commissioner, J. C. Ault; assessor, D. P. Farmer; marshal, Chas. Green; municipal judge, M. B. Chadwick; attorney, J. A. Sawyer; surveyor, A. M. Mitchell; official paper, "Journal." First ward: Aldermen, N. C. Larson, C. W. Hadley; justice, H. E. Luce; constable, L. K. Bullman. Second ward: Aldermen, James Brown, C. J. Kinyon; justice, O. Abernethy; constable, John Thorson. Third ward: Aldermen, C. Tryon, G. L. Forsyth (appointed to take place of newly elected Mayor Morehouse); justice, J. H. Soukup; constable, J. P. Ganser. Fourth ward: Aldermen, Joseph Hoffman, C. F. Backus; justice, A. Moncrieff; constable, H. B. Schoen. Board of education: At large, C. E. Sheldon, Lewis Lord; First ward, W. A. Sperry; Second ward, W. A. Dynes; Third ward, H. Cartwright; Fourth ward, E. Y. Hunnewill.

**1890-91.** Mayor, E. M. Morehouse; recorder, S. M. Bryan; treasurer, E. Easton; street commissioner, J. C. Ault; assessor, D. P. Farmer; marshal, Chas. Green; municipal judge, M. B. Chadwick; attorney, L. L. Wheelock; surveyor, A. M. Mitchell; official paper, "Journal." First ward: Aldermen, D. W. Sperry, N. C. Larson; justice, H. F. Luce; constable, Jay Till. Second ward: Aldermen, C. J. Kinyon, James Brown; justice, O. Abernethy; constable, W. H. Shoemaker. Third ward: Aldermen, H. Kasper, C. Tryon; justice, J. H. Soukup; constable, Cord King. Fourth ward: Aldermen, H. Knoblock, Joseph Hoffman; justice, A. Moncrieff; constable, J. Misgen. Board of education: At large, Lewis Lord, C. E. Sheldon; First ward, W. A. Sperry; Second ward, W. A. Dynes; Third ward, G. D. Holden; Fourth ward, E. Y. Hunnewill.

**1891-92.** Mayor, E. M. Morehouse, W. A. Dynes (elected at special election, July 7, 1891, for the balance of term of Mayor

Morehouse, late deceased); recorder, S. M. Bryan; treasurer, B. F. Welch; street commissioner, M. L. Deviny; assessor, D. P. Farmer; marshal, Chas. Green; municipal judge, M. B. Chadwick; attorney, C. J. O'Brien; surveyor, A. M. Mitchell; official paper, "People's Press." First ward: Aldermen, John Smith, D. W. Sperry; justice, H. F. Luce; constable, William Thomson. Second ward: Aldermen, William Gausewitz, C. J. Kinyon; justice, M. B. Chadwick (appointed to serve in place of S. Anderson, who was elected, but refused to serve); constable, W. H. Shoemaker. Third ward: Aldermen, C. Tryon, H. Kasper; justice, J. H. Soukup; constable, C. Van Arnum. Fourth ward: Aldermen, Joseph Hoffman, H. Knoblock; justice, A. Moncrieff; constable, M. A. McAndrews. Board of education: At large, C. E. Sheldon, Lewis Lord; First ward, W. A. Sperry; Second ward, W. A. Dynes; Third ward, G. B. Holden; Fourth ward, E. Y. Hunnewill.

**1892-93.** Mayor, W. A. Dynes; recorder, S. M. Byrne; treasurer, S. H. Stowers; street commissioner, M. L. Deviny; assessor, D. P. Farmer; marshal, Chas. Green; municipal judge, M. B. Chadwick; attorney, E. W. Richter; surveyor, A. M. Mitchell; official paper, "Journal." First ward: Aldermen, O. S. Boice, John Smith; justice, H. F. Luce. Second ward: Aldermen, N. J. Schafer, William Gausewitz; justice, M. B. Chadwick; constable, W. H. Shoemaker. Third ward: Aldermen, C. P. Sahler, C. Tryon; justice, J. H. Soukup. Fourth ward: Aldermen, L. F. Hammel, Joseph Hoffman; justice, none elected. Board of education: At large, S. Peterson, L. L. Bennett (to fill out one year of unexpired term of C. E. Sheldon); First ward, W. A. Sperry; Second ward, S. W. Curtiss; Third ward, G. D. Holden; Fourth ward, E. Y. Hunnewill.

**1893-94.** Mayor, E. M. Twiford; recorder, S. M. Byrne; treasurer, Albert Kasper; street commissioner, Ovid Wood; assessor, D. P. Farmer; marshal, Chas. Green; municipal judge, C. J. O'Brien; attorney, W. F. Sawyer; surveyor, A. M. Mitchell; official paper, "People's Press." First ward: Aldermen, Carl K. Bennett, O. S. Boice; justice, H. F. Luce. Second ward: Aldermen, L. Virtue, N. J. Schafer; constable, W. H. Shoemaker. Third ward: Aldermen, Dr. F. M. Smersh, C. P. Sahler. Fourth ward: Aldermen, Joseph Hoffman, L. F. Hammel; justice, A. Moncrieff. Board of education: At large, L. L. Bennett, E. M. Morehouse, Jr. (to fill one year, unexpired term of Soren Peterson); First ward, W. A. Sperry; Second ward, S. W. Curtiss; Third ward, O. B. McClintock; Fourth ward, E. Y. Hunnewill.

**1894-95.** Mayor, E. M. Twiford; recorder, E. C. Zamboni; treasurer, M. J. Odell; street commissioner, M. L. Deviny; assessor, D. P. Farmer; marshal, Chas. Green; municipal judge,

C. J. O'Brien; attorney, W. F. Sawyer; surveyor, A. M. Mitchell; official paper, "People's Press." First ward: Aldermen, O. S. Boice, Carl K. Bennett. Second ward: Aldermen, S. S. Green, F. G. Schuman (to fill unexpired term of L. Virtue); constable, W. H. Shoemaker. Third ward: Aldermen, C. M. Rasmusson, Dr. F. M. Smersh. Fourth ward: Aldermen, L. F. Hammel, Joseph Hoffman; justice. Board of education: At large, W. A. Dynes, L. L. Bennett; First ward, W. A. Sperry; Second ward, D. J. Trisko; Third ward, O. B. McClintock; Fourth ward, H. Schmidt.

1895-96. Mayor, N. J. Schafer; recorder, E. C. Zamboni; treasurer, J. A. Cotter; street commissioner, O. Wood; assessor, D. P. Farmer; marshal, Chas. Green; municipal judge, H. F. Luce; attorney, W. F. Sawyer; surveyor, A. M. Mitchell; official paper, "Journal." First ward: Aldermen, C. K. Bennett, O. S. Boice; justice of the peace, H. F. Luce. Second ward: Aldermen, J. C. Ault, S. S. Green; constable, W. H. Shoemaker. Third ward: Aldermen, Lewis Lord, C. M. Rasmusson; Fourth ward: Aldermen, Joseph Hoffman, L. F. Hammel. Board of education: At large, L. L. Bennett, W. A. Dynes; First ward, W. A. Sperry; Second ward, D. J. Trisko; Third ward, O. B. McClintock; Fourth ward, H. Schmidt.

1896-97. Mayor, Peter Ganser; recorder, E. C. Zamboni; treasurer, Lars Peterson; street commissioner, O. Wood; assessor, D. P. Farmer; marshal, F. K. Stewart; municipal judge, H. F. Luce; attorney, W. F. Sawyer; surveyor, A. M. Mitchell; official paper, "Journal." First ward: Aldermen, S. R. Nelson, C. K. Bennett; justice, H. F. Luce. Second ward: Aldermen, S. S. Green, J. C. Ault; constable, William Bycraft. Third ward: Aldermen, J. O. Eastman, Lewis Lord; justice, Frank Ganser. Fourth ward: Aldermen, L. F. Hammel, Joseph Hoffman; justice, C. I. Buxton. Board of education: At large, G. A. Merrill, L. L. Bennett; First ward, W. A. Sperry; Second ward, D. J. Trisko; Third ward, Geo. W. Peachey; Fourth ward, William Gausewitz (to fill one year unexpired term of H. Schmidt).

1897-98. Mayor, A. B. Stewart; recorder, J. W. Rowland; treasurer, J. A. Cotter; street commissioner, Ovid Wood; assessor, D. P. Farmer; marshal, Hugh Warren; municipal judge, H. F. Luce; attorney, C. J. O'Brien; surveyor, A. M. Mitchell; official paper, "People's Press." First ward: Aldermen, Carl K. Bennett, S. R. Nelson; justice, H. F. Luce; constable, G. W. Doolittle. Second ward: Aldermen, P. Brennen, S. S. Green; constable, William Rycraft. Third ward: Aldermen, E. M. Morehouse, J. O. Eastman; justice, Frank Ganser. Fourth ward: Aldermen, John Thon, L. F. Hammel; justice, C. I. Buxton. Board of education: At large, N. J. Schafer, G. A. Merrill; First



ward, George Parrott; Second ward, D. J. Trisko; Third ward, George W. Peachey; Fourth ward, William Gausewitz.

**1898-99.** Mayor, Leonard Virtue; recorder, J. W. Rowland; treasurer, J. A. Cotter; street commissioner, Ovid Wood; assessor, D. P. Farmer; marshal, Hugh Warren; municipal judge, H. F. Luce; attorney, C. J. O'Brien; surveyor, A. M. Mitchell; superintendent of waterworks, M. B. Pratt; official paper, "People's Press." First ward: Aldermen, O. H. Odell, Carl K. Bennett; justice, H. F. Luce; constable, William O'Grosky. Second ward: Aldermen, C. K. Anderson, P. Brennan; justice, A. S. Bragg; constable, J. F. Finley. Third ward: Aldermen, J. O. Eastman, F. D. Clinger (to fill last year of E. M. Morehouse's term); constable, Cord King. Fourth ward: Aldermen, L. F. Hammel, John Thon; justice, L. B. Fenner; constable, W. M. Dynes. Board of education: At large, John N. Niles, N. J. Schafer; First ward, George Parrott; Second ward, Frank La Bare; Third ward, George W. Peachey; Fourth ward, William Gausewitz.

**1899-1900.** Mayor, Leonard Virtue; recorder, J. W. Rowland; treasurer, Charles H. Stearns; street commissioner, Frank L. Anderson; assessor, D. P. Farmer; marshal, Hugh Warren; municipal judge, H. F. Luce; attorney, W. F. Sawyer; surveyor, H. S. Dartt; superintendent waterworks, J. N. Niles; official paper, "Journal." First ward: Aldermen, F. E. Church, O. H. Odell; justice, H. F. Luce. Second ward: Aldermen, S. S. Green, C. K. Anderson; justice, Steve Hance; constable, C. C. Chadwick. Third ward: Aldermen, F. D. Clinger, J. O. Eastman; constable, Cord King. Fourth ward: Aldermen, John Thon, L. F. Hammel; justice, L. B. Fenner. Board of education: At large, James W. Connor, John N. Niles; first ward, George Parrott; second ward, Frank La Bare; third ward, George W. Peachey; fourth ward, William Gausewitz.

**1900-01.** Mayor, Leonard Virtue; recorder, P. J. Swanson; treasurer, J. A. Cotter; street commissioner, F. L. Anderson; assessor, James E. Malone; marshal, C. J. Boley; municipal judge, H. F. Luce; attorney, C. J. O'Brien; superintendent of waterworks, M. B. Pratt; official paper, "People's Press." First ward: Aldermen, R. H. Bach, F. E. Church; justice, H. F. Luce; constable, C. Grabarkwietz. Second ward: Aldermen, C. K. Anderson, S. S. Green; justice, Aaron Bragg; constable, William Rycraft. Third ward: Aldermen, A. J. Lippert, F. D. Clinger; constable, Cord King. Fourth ward: Aldermen, C. Butsch, John Thon; justice, L. B. Fenner; constable, J. Misgen, Sr. Board of education: At large, B. E. Darby, James W. Connor; First ward, George Parrott; Second ward, Frank La Bare;



Third ward, George W. Peachey; Fourth ward, R. H. Johnson.

**1901-02.** Mayor, R. H. Johnson; recorder, L. B. Warren; treasurer, C. H. Stearns; street commissioner, Frank Connell; assessor, James E. Malone; marshal, A. Mallinger; municipal judge, H. F. Luce; attorney, C. J. O'Brien; surveyor, H. S. Dartt; superintendent of waterworks, M. B. Pratt; official paper, "People's Press." First ward: Aldermen, F. E. Church, R. H. Bach; justice, H. F. Luce; constable, C. Grabarkwietz. Second ward: Aldermen, S. S. Green, C. K. Anderson; justice, Aaron Bragg; constable, F. Finley. Third ward: Aldermen, F. M. Smersh, A. J. Lippert; constable, Cord King. Fourth ward: Aldermen, L. B. Fenner, C. Butsch; justice, L. B. Fenner; constable, W. S. Boice. Board of education: At large, James W. Connor, B. E. Darby; First ward, George Parrott; Second ward, Frank La Bare; Third ward, George W. Peachey; Fourth ward, R. H. Johnson.

**1902-93.** Mayor, R. H. Bach; recorder, Lyman Warren; treasurer, C. H. Stearns; street commissioner, Frank Connell; assessor, James E. Malone; marshal, A. Mallinger; municipal judge, H. F. Luce; attorney, C. J. O'Brien; surveyor, Harvey S. Dartt; superintendent of waterworks, M. B. Pratt; official paper, "People's Press." First ward: Aldermen, R. G. Nelson, F. E. Church; justice, H. F. Luce. Second ward: Aldermen, C. K. Anderson, S. S. Green; justice, W. E. Dunbar; constable, Frank Finley. Third ward: Aldermen, A. G. Lippert, F. M. Smersh; constable, Cord King. Fourth ward: Aldermen, J. C. Jahreiss, L. B. Fenner. Board of education: At large, Ellen M. Eustis, James W. Connor; First ward, George Parrott; Second ward, Frank La Bare; Third ward, George Peachey; Fourth ward, T. E. Cashman (to fill out last year of R. H. Johnson's term).

**1903-04.** Mayor, Thomas E. Cashman; recorder, Lyman B. Warren; treasurer, Robert Deininger; street commissioner, Andrew Erdman; assessor, James E. Malone; marshal, Henry Abernethy; municipal judge, B. F. Hood; attorney, C. J. O'Brien; surveyor, A. M. Mitchell; superintendent of waterworks, M. B. Pratt; official paper, "People's Press." First ward: Aldermen, F. E. Church, R. G. Nelson; justice, H. F. Luce. Second ward: Aldermen, John Kendall, C. K. Anderson; justice, W. E. Dunbar; constable, M. A. McAndrews. Third ward: Aldermen, A. G. Kranz, A. G. Lippert; constable, Cord King. Fourth ward: Aldermen, L. B. Fenner, J. C. Jahreiss. Board of education: At large, A. G. Pinkham, Ellen M. Eustis; First ward, George Parrott; Second ward, Frank La Bare; Third ward, George Peachey; Fourth ward, William C. Zamboni.

**1904-05.** Mayor, Thomas E. Cashman; recorder, Charles Servatius; treasurer, Robert M. Deininger; street commissioner, Andrew Erdman; assessor, Henry Sanders; marshal, Henry Abernethy; municipal judge, B. F. Hood; attorney, W. F. Sawyer; surveyor, A. M. Mitchell; superintendent of waterworks, Harry D. Tompkins; official paper, "Chronicle." First ward: Aldermen, R. G. Nelson, F. E. Church; justice, H. F. Luce. Second ward: Aldermen, John Kendall, Harvey S. Dartt; justice, W. Dunbar. Third ward: Aldermen, T. M. Morehouse, A. G. Kranz; constable, Cord King. Fourth ward: Aldermen, J. C. Jahreiss, L. B. Fenner; constable, Steve Stepanek. Board of education: At large, Ellen M. Eustis, A. G. Pinkham; First ward, George Parrott; Second ward, Ward Kinyon; Third ward, George Peachey; Fourth ward, William C. Zamboni.

**1905-06.** Mayor, Charles Green; recorder, C. J. Servatius; treasurer, Frank Finley; street commissioner, Andrew Erdman; assessor, Henry Sanders; marshal, Chas. Misgen; municipal judge, J. Newsalt; attorney, W. F. Sawyer; surveyor, A. M. Mitchell; superintendent of waterworks, S. S. Green; official paper, "Journal." First ward: Aldermen, J. H. Robson, R. G. Nelson; justice, H. F. Luce. Second ward: Aldermen, N. P. Jefferson, Harvey S. Dartt; constable, Frank Stewart. Third ward: Aldermen, A. G. Kranz, T. M. Morehouse; constable, E. Liddington. Fourth ward: Aldermen, L. B. Fenner, J. C. Jahreiss; constable, Jacob Orłowski. Board of education: At large, Guy B. Bennett, Ellen M. Eustis; First ward, George Parrott; Second ward, Ward Kinyon; Third ward, Edward Lansing; Fourth ward, William C. Zamboni.

**1906-07.** Mayor, Harvey S. Dartt; recorder, C. J. Servatius; treasurer, Frank Finley; street commissioner, William Kottke; assessor, J. M. Schafer; marshal, Chas. Misgen; municipal judge, J. Newsalt; attorney, W. F. Sawyer; surveyor, A. M. Mitchell; superintendent of waterworks; S. S. Green; weighmaster, Wilford Vinton; official paper, "Journal-Chronicle." First ward: Aldermen, R. G. Nelson, J. H. Robson; justice, H. F. Luce. Second ward: Aldermen, O. E. Williamson, N. P. Jefferson. Third ward: Aldermen, F. J. Wencil, A. G. Kranz; constable, Cord King. Fourth ward: Aldermen, F. M. Hoffman, L. B. Fenner; constable, Joseph Belina. Board of education: At large, R. H. G. Netz, Guy B. Bennett; First ward, George Parrott; Second ward, Ward Kinyon; Third ward, Edward Lansing; Fourth ward, William C. Zamboni.

**1907-08.** Mayor, Charles Green; recorder, C. J. Servatius; treasurer, Michael Leary; street commissioner, William Kottke; assessor, James Malone; marshal, Chas. Misgen; municipal

judge, Jacob Newsalt; attorney, W. F. Sawyer; surveyor, A. M. Mitchell; superintendent of waterworks, Karl P. Theimer; weighmaster, Wilford Vinton; official paper, "People's Press." First ward: Aldermen, Guy J. Clefton, R. G. Nelson; justice, H. F. Luce. Second ward, Aldermen, N. P. Jefferson, O. E. Williamson; justice, Oscar G. Cedardahl; constable, J. F. Fitzgerald. Third ward: Aldermen, William Hart, F. J. Wencl; constable, Cord King. Fourth ward: Aldermen, L. B. Fenner, F. M. Hoffman. Board of education: At large, Guy Bennett, R. H. G. Netz; First ward, George Parrott; Second ward, Ward W. Kinyon; Third ward, Edward Lansing; Fourth ward, William C. Zamboni.

1908-09. Mayor, C. I. Reigard; recorder, Chas. Servatius; treasurer, M. Leary; street commissioner, Edward Austin; assessor, Jas. E. Malone; marshal, Chas. Misgen; municipal judge, F. A. Dunham; attorney, W. F. Sawyer; surveyor, A. M. Mitchell; superintendent of waterworks, H. S. Dartt; weighmaster, Wilfred Vinton; official paper, "Weekly Journal-Chronicle." First ward: Aldermen, R. G. Nelson, Guy J. Clefton; justice, H. F. Luce; constable, A. C. Sanders. Second ward: Aldermen, O. E. Williamson, N. P. Jefferson; justice, Oscar G. Cedardahl; constable, F. J. Finley. Third ward: Aldermen, F. J. Wencl, William Hart; constable, Cord King. Fourth ward: Aldermen: F. M. Hoffman, L. B. Fenner. Board of education: At large, R. H. G. Netz, Guy Bennett; First ward, George Parrott; Second ward, Ward W. Kinyon; Third ward, E. W. Lansing; Fourth ward, William C. Zamboni.

1909-10. Mayor, L. F. Hammel; recorder, Chas. J. Servatius; treasurer, M. Leary; street commissioner, E. J. Austin; assessor, Jas. E. Malone; marshal, A. Mallinger; municipal judge, F. A. Dunham; attorney, W. F. Sawyer; engineer, Edward Austin; assistant engineer, A. M. Mitchell; weighmaster, Frank Finley; official paper, "People's Press." First ward: Aldermen, Guy J. Clefton, R. G. Nelson; justice, Karl P. Theimer. Second ward: Aldermen, L. C. Brown, O. E. Williamson; constable, M. A. McAndrews. Third ward: Aldermen, William Hart, F. J. Wencl; constable, Cord King. Fourth ward: Aldermen, L. B. Fenner, James Orłowski (for one year to fill out unexpired term of F. M. Hoffman); constable, H. Conklin. Board of education: At large, G. B. Bennett, R. H. G. Netz; First ward, George Parrott; Second ward, Ward W. Kinyon; Third ward: E. W. Lansing; Fourth ward, William C. Zamboni.

1910-11. Mayor, L. F. Hammel; city clerk, C. J. Servatius; treasurer, M. Leary; municipal judge, F. A. Dunham; chief of police, Adolph Mallinger; attorney, H. E. Leach; assessor,

James E. Malone; weighmaster, Jacob Ciecimerowski; engineer, Harvey S. Dartt; official paper, "People's Press." alderman at large for four years, L. C. Brown; alderman at large for two years, R. G. Nelson. First ward: Alderman, Guy J. Cleifton. Second ward: Alderman, O. E. Williamson. Third ward: Alderman, William Hart. Fourth ward: Alderman, L. B. Fenner. Fifth ward: Alderman, Anton Seykora. Board of education: At large, R. H. G. Netz; First ward, George Parrott; Second ward, Ward Kinyon; Third ward, E. W. Lansing; Fourth ward, William C. Zamboni; Fifth ward, Anton Seykora.

## CHAPTER XX

### OWATONNA IMPROVEMENTS

Parks—Central Park—Dartt's Park—Mineral Springs Park—  
Second Ward Park—Cemeteries—City Waterworks—Sewer  
System—City and Firemen's Hall—Owatonna Library—  
City Hospital—Lighting and Heating System—Theater.

Owatonna has been particularly fortunate in her public improvements. The lighting and heating, sewer and waterworks systems contribute to the comforts of every-day life, while the parks add not only to the beauty of the city but also promote the health of the citizens. The cemeteries are beautifully located and convey that impression of secluded peace with which we are wont to associate the last resting place of the dead. The City and Firemen's Hall is one of which the city may well be proud, and the library has had an important part in the development of the higher life of the community. The hospital has alleviated much pain and suffering, and has justified its establishment. The theater, while not owned by the city, may nevertheless be mentioned among the public improvements.

### OWATONNA PARKS

Owatonna is justly proud of its parks, which are unexcelled by any in this part of the state. A city's beauty is largely measured by its parks, and Owatonna's rank as a beautiful city is ably maintained by this fact. Much credit is due to the men who have been instrumental in the development and management of the parks. For many years the duties of caring for the city's playgrounds had been left to the common council, a park committee appointed by the mayor having immediate charge. This system remained in vogue until November 5, 1907, when an ordinance was passed vesting the management of the parks in a committee of nine citizens, to be appointed for a term of three years by the mayor, subject to the approval of the council. The present members are as follows: C. A. Tincer, A. N. Wright, C. P. Sahler, J. F. Fitzgerald, C. J. Clefton, C. H. Rosebrock, C. K. Bennett, M. J. Brown and T. E. Cashman.

**Central Park.** When the city of Owatonna, then but a rude village, was platted, in 1855, the space now occupied by Central



Park was forever reserved as a public square, and as such it was used until the early seventies, answering the purposes of a hay market, ball ground and a general get-together place. About 1873, however, it was felt that the needs of the community would be better served by a park, and after much laboring by Clarke Chambers, Dr. Harsha, and other public-spirited citizens, the council came to see it in that light, and arranged to have plans for a suitable park drawn by John Abbott. In spite of considerable delay and some opposition, the grounds were laid out and fenced, trees planted, and a fountain and a band stand constructed. The park has been especially valuable as a place for the Saturday night band concerts, and under its shady trees the dust and glare of the surrounding streets are forgotten. Numerous improvements have been added from year to year, and during 1909 hundreds of dollars were spent in raising the level of the park and in laying the cement walks which encircle and bisect the park. A new fountain was also added, which helps to make this beauty spot the more charming.

**Dartt's Park.** This park was enjoyed as a pleasure ground by the citizens of Owatonna through the generosity of E. H. S. Dartt, one of its most unselfish and public-spirited men of affairs. Mr. Dartt became the owner of this property, located in the northeastern part of the city, during 1896, and at once took steps to make it an ideal resort for the weary and city-surfeited. Maple creek, which wound through the park, was dammed in judiciously selected spots, greatly increasing the depth of the water and making a wide lagoon. Bathing houses were erected, arched bridges spanned the creek, a baseball diamond was laid out, and a grand stand and band stand built. Without cost or admission of any kind, these premises were thrown open to the public. A boat house was later erected, and a gasoline launch and barge added much to the pleasures of the resort. Mr. Dartt experienced much difficulty in building dams capable of withstanding the ravages of the spring freshets, and spent thousands of dollars in keeping up the park. It is believed that he would have been glad to donate the park to the city, under certain conditions as to its maintenance, but nothing was done. After his death, in 1903, the property rapidly went to pieces through freshets and lack of attention, and its once well deserved name of "Dartt's Paradise" became rather a misfit. In 1907, after fruitless attempts to sell it to the city, the property was sold to J. M. Diment, and is now known as **Diment's Park**, but has never been restored to its former splendor.

**Mineral Springs Park.** As far remote as the early seventies the remarkable curative properties of Owatonna's celebrated springs, situated a mile and a half northeast of the city, began

to be recognized. Simon Case, the owner of the land, succeeded in getting many of the prominent citizens of Owatonna interested, and about 1875 the Owatonna Mineral Springs Company was organized, with N. M. Donaldson president, M. L. Strong secretary, and Edward Donaldson treasurer. "General" H. A. Beers also did much for the early development of the springs, the spring from which the celebrated Owatonna vichy water is taken being named after him. The company procured the services of an expert chemist, Professor Enno Sanders, who analyzed the waters and pronounced them very similar to those of the famed vichy springs in the Ardennes of France. A circular was published giving the analysis and expatiating on the marvelous health-giving qualities of the waters, and it was hoped that a health resort would be started. Finally the city council was persuaded to buy the property for a public park, which was consummated July 3, 1877. February 6, 1883, an adjoining tract was purchased from Jacob Oppliger, the transaction being virtually an exchange of land between Oppliger and the city. During 1901, a two-acre piece was added, bringing the park up to its present area of twenty-four acres. For diversity and charm of scenery, it stands unsurpassed, being surrounded with wooded hill and fragrant with the natural flowers for which this part of the state is noted, making one of nature's most restful and lovely garden spots. Little could be done to enhance its God-given beauty. A large pavilion which has been recently remodeled adds to the comforts of picnickers and visitors, as do numerous tables and benches. The springs are too numerous to mention. Several of them are arranged to flow into cement drinking fountains. The present Owatonna Mineral Springs Company, controlled by Dr. Warren S. Briggs, who received an exclusive twenty-five-year franchise for the sale of water from the springs in 1903, has done much in the way of advertising the springs and also the city of Owatonna, its water having a rapidly growing sale throughout the Northwest. It is supplied to the dining cars on many of the railroad lines, and thus its fame has spread all over the United States.

No description of the springs would be complete without mention of the "Big Rock," a relic of the glacial period, and one of the largest boulders in this section of the state. Many improvements have been added to the springs within the last few years, new dam, bridges and fountains having been installed. The opening of a new and shorter road to the park, in 1906, a beautiful driveway, makes the journey worth the while in itself.

**Second Ward Park.** During the late nineties the little park, just south of the Mineral Springs avenue railroad bridge, was

opened. It was never officially christened, but is known as the "Second Ward Park." While very small in point of area, it serves to break the monotony, and has helped Owatonna to earn its name of the "Beautiful City."

### OWATONNA WATERWORKS.

The first steps were taken for the establishment of a suitable system of city waterworks, February 7, 1888, when a petition was presented for the erection of such a plant and accompanying mains. This request of the citizens was favorably received, the council deciding to have the question of issuing \$40,000 bonds for waterworks purposes submitted at the next March election. After canvassing the returns it was found that the bonds carried by a majority of but eight, and numerous rumors as to voting frauds made the bonds unsalable. Owing to the expense incident to determining the matter in the courts, nothing was done until about a year later, when the council took steps to obtain authority from the state legislature in order to change Owatonna's charter so as to allow for the assessing of part of the cost of sewerage and watermains against the abutting property. April 2, 1889, a committee composed of C. Tryon, C. W. Hadley and C. J. Kinyon, aldermen, was appointed to look up facts and data regarding a system of city waterworks. At a special election held June 18, 1889, the citizens authorized the bonding of the city to the extent of \$30,000 for a waterworks system.

Work was immediately started, the present site for the engine house purchased, and the contract for the drilling of the well let to F. P. Rust. W. W. Curtis, an engineer, was chosen to draw up the plans and specifications, and April 9, 1890, the contract for the erection and fitting up of the plant was given to Harrison & Hawley, of St. Paul, consideration \$28,889.60. Less than a year later the plant was in running order, and water was being supplied to all sections of the city—wherever there was sufficient demand for it—as fast as the mains and piping could be laid. Every year has witnessed an extension of the water service, and the city now has over fourteen miles of mains and nearly a thousand consumers of city water. The total cost of the plant and mains has been in the neighborhood of \$90,000. About 1895, the west side was piped. During the past year—1910-1911—the water mains have been greatly extended, several thousand feet of piping having been laid.

Artesian wells supply the water, which is of unexcelled purity. The original well which supplied the city alone until 1898, is between three and four hundred feet deep. About

1898, three other wells were added, varying in depth from eighty-three to eighty-nine feet. Water from these is pumped into a large reservoir and thence into the mains, but the water from the original well is pumped direct. A stand-pipe, located in the southeastern portion of the city, over a hundred feet in height, keeps the pressure strong and uniform.

All that goes to make up a first-class plant of its kind is included in the city's pumping station. Two engines with boilers, sixty feet by sixteen, developing over eighty horsepower apiece, furnish adequate power for all conditions ever met with. The pumps are of the most modern make, one being a Smith-Vail and the other a Smedley, together having a pumping capacity of 700 gallons per minute.

Isaac Sorsoleil was the first engineer proving himself an efficient and faithful employee during his eleven years of service. He was succeeded by the present engineer, E. J. Crawford, in August, 1901, Mr. Crawford having previously worked several years as an assistant. His careful and judicious management has always met with the approval of the city fathers. Frank Orlowski is now assistant engineer.

Much is due to the men who have had charge of the business end of Owatonna's waterworks system. Up till 1898, the waterworks committee of the city council appointed a man from year to year to keep the books, collect rents, etc. S. M. Byrne served in that capacity for several years, being succeeded by S. S. Green. In 1898, M. B. Pratt was elected superintendent of waterworks by the council, and held the office with few interruptions for five or six years. The other superintendents who have filled this office for varying periods of time are, J. N. Niles, Harry D. Tompkins, S. S. Green, Karl P. Theimer and Harvey S. Dartt. Since the adoption of the new charter, in 1909, the duties of this office have been borne jointly by the city clerk and engineer, C. J. Servatius and Harvey S. Dartt.

### ELECTRIC LIGHTS, GAS AND HEATING.

The progressive citizens of Owatonna began to realize about 1889 that an electric plant would mean much for the growth and development of the city. Steps were taken to induce a company to come in, but the population of the city was hardly sufficient to make a paying proposition assured. Henry Birkett, George R. Kinyon and other prominent men of affairs succeeded in getting a franchise from the council, March 16, 1889, for the establishment of an electric plant, the papers being in Mr. Birkett's name, and the idea being to offer the franchise gratis to any company that would use it. This was never done, how-



ever, and June 15, 1897, it was officially revoked by the city council, it having been null and void for years on account of non-usage. During 1890, a franchise was granted by the city council to an outside corporation, headed and managed by two brothers of the name of Pierce, and electric lighting and other conveniences speedily became a reality for Owatonna. The first electric street lamps was installed, and the court house and other public, as well as private buildings wired. This company continued until about 1900, with various changes in the management, the quality of service also fluctuating.

**The Owatonna Electric Company**, controlled by a Mr. Dazell, entered the field in 1900, purchasing the franchise rights and equipment of the preceding company, and securing a twenty-five year franchise direct from the council, allowing the establishment of a gas and hot water heating plant in addition. Mr. Dazell did not have the necessary financial backing, and so a year later he sold to the present owner of the **Public Service Operating Company**, A. J. Stahl, of LaPorte, Indiana. C. L. Powell was installed as manager, the heating and electric light service was greatly extended, and the company has ever since done a thriving business. Dozens of different resident managers have held sway, prominent among them E. G. Porter, L. L. Herrick, W. H. Wilfred and Harry G. Wagner. Charles L. Yergin is the present incumbent. A gas franchise was granted the company, in 1906, and the others renewed for a period of twenty years. Owing to the fact that the Public Service company has had a monopoly for many years, it is alleged by many citizens that they have been until recently excessive as to rates. In order to remedy this state of affairs, the question of bonding the city for a \$50,000 municipal electric light plant was submitted to the voters at the last March election and approved by an overwhelming majority. With this whip in their hands, the council with the aid of an expert electrician, J. Millar, undertook to force the company to come to reasonable terms, surrender their franchises and take others under the new charter. It seemed very probable that this arrangement would be made, until A. L. Ober, of Chatfield, Minnesota, entered the field, asking for an electric and gas franchise. After careful consideration of Mr. Ober's terms, they were accepted, and a twenty-five year franchise has been recently signed by him and the city, and it is expected that Mr. Ober will deposit the bonds necessary within the near future. A ten-year street-lighting franchise, providing for a large increase in the number of lights, has also been given him. The Public Service Operating Company has expressed its willingness to surrender its franchises and take others under the new



charter in order to help preserve its treasured monopoly, but has been refused. The company is in a very prosperous condition, however, and as it has many years of life under its old franchise, it will doubtless continue to do business. They have recently laid several thousand feet of gas mains through the west side, making a total of over eight miles of gas lines, and now have about four hundred consumers of gas, from five to six hundred of electricity, and over a hundred of hot water heat. The service has been greatly improved of late, and liberal inducements are being offered to new customers. They have about a mile and a quarter of hot water piping. Their equipment is entirely up-to-date, consisting of generators and other electrical machinery—mostly of Allis-Chalmers make—of the best types. The engine develops in the neighborhood of five hundred horsepower. Carbureted water gas is furnished.

Numerous companies have, at various times, seriously considered establishing plants in Owatonna, but have failed to materialize. John I. Wilson, D. E. Virtue, C. L. Pound, organized as the Light, Heat and Power Company of the city of Owatonna, created quite a ripple in 1900, and procured a franchise for an electric, steam and hot water heating plant, January 5, 1900, which they never took advantage of. It lapsed through their failure to use it, and was officially revoked by the council June 7, 1904.

### OWATONNA SEWERS.

Shortly after the installation of the waterworks system in 1891, the city began arranging for a suitable sewerage system. There were practically no sewerage lines in Owatonna at this time, that of Pillsbury academy—partly built at the city's expense, in 1889, and emptying into Maple Creek, being the only one of importance. Charles F. Loweth, a civil engineer of St. Paul, was awarded the contract for the plans which contemplated the laying of several thousand feet of piping, Cedar being the first street to be supplied. The bid of Clefton Brothers, \$8,506.97, on this work was officially accepted, March 23, 1892, and construction immediately commenced. The city now has eleven and three-quarter miles of city sewers, put in at a cost of \$48,696. No year has passed without the laying of new lines. During 1904, the west side got its first sewerage service, twelve hundred feet being laid at an expense of about twelve hundred dollars. This sewer empties into Straight river, as do all the lines in the other portions of the city, excepting the Pillsbury academy sewer, and a few hundred feet of line in that neighborhood, which drain into Maple Creek. The sewer system

has been greatly extended this last year—1910—and at present rapid progress is being made.

### CEMETERIES.

**Forest Hill Cemetery.** The first Owatonna cemetery was established near the present depot of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul and Northwestern railroad lines, and remained there until the coming of the railroads in 1866. The property was then taken for right-of-way, and the city purchased a suitable site, located west of the river and north of city, and immediately began the removal of the bodies. These grounds were used for cemetery purposes until 1872, during which year the city became the owner of the present site of the Forest Hill cemetery, arrangements being made with the recently organized Forest Hill Cemetery Association whereby the city became the owners of the property, but left its control and management with the association. The association consists of all citizens owning lots in the cemetery, and a board of directors is elected yearly who render detailed reports to the city at regular intervals and attend to the maintenance of the grounds. Seth Hotchkiss and L. Bixby were respectively president and secretary of the first board, and signed the deed conveying the property to the city. The members of the present board are as follows: Dr. A. C. Searl, president; H. Schmidt, secretary; George R. Kinyon, treasurer; A. L. Sperry, Harvey S. Dartt, and Guy B. Bennett. H. Schmidt ranks first in length of service, having been a member since 1880, and secretary since 1888.

G. W. Shaw was the first actuary, and after several years was succeeded by S. N. Sergeant who held the office up to 1891. T. J. Rions was then chosen, and remained in charge until the first of July, 1908, when F. W. Adams, the present actuary, assumed office.

Forest Hill cemetery is located on Mineral Springs avenue, a fifteen-minute walk from the heart of the city. It contains thirty acres of land, and is one of the most naturally beautiful spots in the state, being well elevated above the surrounding country and thickly covered with native trees which have been judiciously thinned. Model driveways wind in and out through the grounds, and the well-kept grass and flowers add to the charming effect, a general air of quiet and peace prevailing, making a fitting resting place for those gone before. Besides the city vault, installed about 1890, there are eight private vaults, many of them of rich and costly design. In 1892, the actuary's house was built, situated just east of the grounds. The cemetery is thoroughly up-to-date in all its appointments. A fifteen

hundred foot, covered drainage ditch is being put in at present, and a new road leading to the cemetery will be added after its completion.

**Sacred Heart Cemetery.** Forty-two years ago, the present Sacred Heart cemetery was inaugurated, five acres of land, situated about a mile and a half south of Owatonna, being purchased from Frank Kubista. Five more have been added during the past year, and the installation of a vault in the near future seems certain. The property is in the name of the Right Reverend Bishop Heffren, of Winona, but Father Pivo of the Sacred Heart church, together with an executive committee, consisting of John Lynard, Thomas Cashman, Charles Ringhofer and Andrew Parolik, have the management. The well-kept grounds and graves enhance the natural beauty of the place.

**German Lutheran.** The Owatonna congregation came into ownership of its present cemetery consisting of three and a half acres, located directly north of the Forest Hill cemetery, May 1, 1901, the property being purchased from the Forest Hill Cemetery Association at a cost of \$750. Much of this amount had been previously raised by the sale of lots. A fence and other improvements have entailed an expenditure of over \$100. The cemetery is under the direction of a board of managers, consisting of Fred W. Tuerk, president; William Hammond, secretary; John Martin, treasurer; Carl Kaspri, Charles Finger, Louis Wilker and Louis Wobbrock.

### CITY AND FIREMEN'S HALL.

In the spring of 1905, the Owatonna fire department began agitating, with characteristic vigor and energy, the question of a suitable city and firemen's hall to take the place of the antiquated structure then in use. The firemen early showed a willingness to do more than their part, offering a contribution amounting to \$4,500, provided the city agreed to erect a building to cost not less than \$16,000. This donation consisted of the site, which the firemen had purchased for \$3,500, and \$1,000 in cash. They also agreed to loan to the city for two years the money necessary to provide up-to-date fire equipment.

The proposition met with favor with the city fathers, and they granted a petition, drawn up and circulated by the firemen, asking for the submission to the people at a special election of the question of issuing \$15,000 bonds for the building. The special election was held September 19, 1905, and the bonds voted, but a month later the legality of the bonds was challenged in the courts by a tax-payer, and they were declared illegal on

account of the loose manner in which action was taken in ordering the special election.

Thus it became necessary for the work of circulating a petition, and again securing a satisfactory vote on the matter, to be done all over again. In the meantime, the firemen were offered \$4,500 for the site, \$1,000 more than they had paid for it, but the offer was refused. Nevertheless it practically added \$1,000 to the amount the firemen were contributing toward the building.

The election of March, 1906, finally decided the bond question, their issue being authorized by a majority of 112. Great care was taken to have the proceedings correct, so that no further trouble was experienced.

July 17, bids were received for the construction of the building, that of Hammel Brothers and Anderson, \$19,643, being accepted, and work was immediately begun.

The cornerstone was laid with impressive ceremonies under the auspices of the Masonic order, September 8, 1906, and Chief E. M. Twiford of the fire department formally presented the city the deed to the lots and \$1,000 in cash.

As the building neared completion, it became evident that it was to cost more than at first planned, and again the firemen showed true public spirit. Under the agreement the city was to finish the entire building, giving the firemen a perpetual lease of the third floor. Now the firemen agreed to the third floor's remaining unfinished, or in other words undertook to finish it themselves, which they subsequently did at an expense of about \$2,000, thus making their total contribution to the hall over \$6,000.

The opening of this magnificent City and Firemen's hall, October 5, 1907, will be long treasured in the minds of the citizens of this city. Every business, profession and trade, every degree of affluence, every class of society, was represented, and all mingled happily together in the festivities of the occasion, which formally introduced Owatonna's new civic home and the headquarters of one of its leading official organizations to the public. A fine promenade concert, a grand ball and a sumptuous banquet, each sufficient for an event by itself, and all combined making the occasion an event of the first magnitude in the history of Owatonna. The music for the concert was furnished by members of the Owatonna military band, who generously donated their services for the occasion.

The structure itself is representative of the highest type of buildings of this character, and is one of which any city might well be proud. The first floor is devoted to engine and stable room. The second contains the municipal court, council cham-



ber, firemen's sleeping room, and three offices. The third floor includes the large dance hall, cloak rooms, and a large retiring room in front.

It is of interest to know that the oak used in the interior woodwork was cut from trees grown in Steele county. The exterior of the building is composed of a high grade of white brick, with sandstone arching the doors.

Too much credit cannot be given to Fire-chief E. M. Twiford, who, more than any other man awoke the citizens to a realization of their need of this building. Every fireman, in fact, was an active worker and promoter. The city is also especially indebted to Messrs. Robson, Hoffman, Williamson and Clefton, members of the building committee of the common council during 1906 and 1907, who gave freely and generously of their time.

### CITY HOSPITAL.

The Owatonna City Hospital is located on Cedar street, surrounded by a beautiful lawn, the building consisting of the original brick veneered residence of J. A. Oppliger, with an addition erected by the city and an addition erected by W. H. Kelly at a cost of \$10,000. Various additions and improvements have also been made by Mrs. Elizabeth Batzle, in memory of her husband. Up to 1909 the hospital board was an advisory one, but since the change in the city charter the hospital board is independent, and is allowed a certain sum each year for the maintenance of the institution. The present board consists of one member from each ward of the city and one elected at large. The members of the board are: President, M. S. Alexander; secretary, A. H. Smith; W. H. Vinton, John Deviny, Frank LaBarre and O. K. Kubat. The hospital has about thirty rooms, most of which were furnished by various individuals and organizations of the city.

The Owatonna City Hospital is the outgrowth of a sentiment which assumed tangible form during the summer of 1899. At that time the need of an institution of this kind was discussed among the physicians of the city in an informal way, and the conclusion unanimously reached that the time was ripe for putting in operation the plans which then seemed proper and feasible. Subscriptions to the amount of \$1,200 were obtained, and in March, 1900, the city voted \$10,000 for the purchase of a suitable location and the erection of the necessary buildings for a hospital. At the same time a board of nine was appointed by the council as follows: S. R. Nelson (chairman), G. W. Peachey (secretary), M. J. Toher, M. S. Alexander, A. G. Leick,



G. J. Kaplan, John Deviny, John Adsit and William Gausewitz. The board organized at once and elected an advisory board of five physicians, consisting of Drs. Adair, Hatch, Smersh, Schulze and Eustis. After duly considering various sites, the property of the late J. A. Oppliger on South Cedar street was purchased for \$6,500. An addition was at once erected at a cost of \$1,500. The Kelly addition was built in 1906.

### OWATONNA PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The history of the Owatonna Free Public Library properly begins at the time of the death of Mrs. Elizabeth C. Hunewill, which occurred on February 4, 1896. Mrs. Hunewill bequeathed to the city of Owatonna the specific sum of \$10,000 and the further sum of two-fifths of her residuary estate, to be used for library purposes under the following terms and conditions: Five thousand dollars to be used to pay the last bills on a building to cost not less than \$10,000 exclusive of the lot; and the remaining \$5,000 together with the residuary legacy to be kept forever intact as an endowment fund, and the interest therefrom only to be used for the purchase of books for the library. Moreover, the entire bequest was based upon the further condition that the city of Owatonna establish a public library under the laws of the state of Minnesota and provide for its perpetual maintenance and purchase books for the same at a cost of not less than \$5,000. It soon became evident by reason of the successful and economical administration of the estate of Mrs. Hunewill, that the residuary legacy would amount to at least \$11,500. Therefore, encouraged by the assurance of a splendid legacy of \$24,500 the city council unanimously voted to establish the public library under the state law, and pursuant thereto chose a library board of nine directors. The library board as thus constituted held its first meeting January 8, 1897.

September 18, 1897, the city council purchased, for the sum of \$3,000, the excellent site upon which the library building now stands and deeded the same to the board of directors. On January 25, 1898, the library board requested the city council to put to a vote at the following March election, the proposition to issue \$10,000 library bonds. This proposition was voted by a large majority. The provisions of the state library law allowed a tax, not to exceed one mill, in cities of the size of Owatonna, to be levied for the support of the library and accordingly, in the fall of 1897, a tax of \$1,000 (two-thirds of a mill) was levied by the council. Therefore, the board were enabled to enter upon the task of building and equipping the library. The board then spent much time in studying the buildings and equip-

ments of other libraries. It soon became apparent that the best results could be secured by having a committee visit several model libraries in the East where the library movement has reached its most widespread development. The board, therefore, chose two of its members as such committee, who, in August, 1898, made a journey to Boston and vicinity, covering a distance of over 3,500 miles, occupying over two weeks' time, and for which journey the board allowed each member of the committee \$75.00 for expenses.

September 7, 1898, this committee made a written report to the board. The report was unanimously adopted and the board set to work to obtain a building which should, as far as possible, embrace the ideas as set forth in the report. During the fall of 1898 the plans of the present building were perfected. It then became evident that a suitable building which should in all respects meet the requirements of a model library, and at the same time be suitable to the size of the city of Owatonna, could not be built for much less than \$20,000. At this point a large number of our public spirited citizens gave a written guarantee to the board in the sum of \$5,000, making it possible to let the contract at once. And in accordance with this guarantee the citizens again voted in in March, 1899, by a large majority, to issue \$5,000 additional library bonds. Having thus provided for the construction of the library building, it was necessary to give attention to the purchase of \$5,000 worth of books in accordance with the Hunewill bequest.

Miss A. L. Sargent of the Medford, Mass., public library, was engaged to prepare a buyer's catalogue of 5,000 best books for the library. Later Miss Sargent was employed regularly as agent for the purchase of books and also to catalogue and to prepare the books for library use. This work occupied several months and was performed to the great satisfaction of the board.

The furnishing and maintaining of the children's rooms, which could not otherwise have been available until a later time, on account of lack of funds, was undertaken and successfully completed by the ladies, members of the Nineteenth Century Club, and of the Cosmopolitan Club, both of Owatonna.

In brief, the library, as it stood on the opening day, ground, building, equipment and books, represented an investment of practically \$32,000, and \$27,000 of this sum had come from the public funds and \$5,000 had come from the Hunewill fund. In return for this expenditure of money, there is an endowment fund of about \$16,500, which yields an annual income of about \$900 to be used for the purchase of books.

The library was opened on February 22, 1900, and has had a large and increasing patronage since that date.

The liberality of the citizens of Owatonna in voting bonds for the library and the subsequent good will and loyalty of the city council in providing for deficiencies in the funds of the library board, should be praised. And mention should be made especially of the tireless efforts and vigilant watchfulness of a few persons, intensely interested in the library movement for Owatonna, who shamed opposition and who bore the burden of such a difficult undertaking.

The present librarian is Elizabeth H. Plumb, and the present members of the board: R. G. Nelson (chairman), A. L. Sperry (secretary), John Adsit, Benjamin F. Darby, C. K. Bennett, H. K. Tompkins, Dr. J. H. Adair, Rev. P. J. Kiernan and Robert Johnson.

The library maintains branches at Havana, Bixby and Ellendale.

### OPERA HOUSE.

The Metropolitan Opera House is one of the quasi-public buildings of the city, of which the citizens may well be proud. It was opened November 4, 1897, by Otis Skinner, and November 1, 1904, passed into the possession of W. F. Gage, of La Crosse and Albert Lea, the consideration being \$15,000 in cash and the agreement that the building should be maintained as a theater so long as it should stand. C. J. Servatius is the present local manager.

On September 8, 1896, a public meeting was held in the court house to consider the question of building an opera house. M. B. Chadwick was elected chairman and S. S. Green, secretary. At this meeting a proposition was made by a number of gentlemen. This proposition said that if the citizens would contribute \$5,000 they would agree to secure the lot on Main and South Cedar 66x132 feet, and erect thereon a substantial three-story building of pressed brick, modern in all respects, to cost not less than \$20,000 exclusive of site. The building was to have a seating capacity of 1,000 persons. The gentlemen making this proposition were B. S. Cook, W. R. Kinyon, Geo. R. Kinyon, C. S. Crandall, S. R. Nelson, T. H. Kelly, J. M. Schafer, P. Ganser, J. Glaeser, H. M. Hastings, C. M. Lorence, J. A. Oppliger, M. S. Alexander, W. H. Kelly, Hammel Bros., H. R. Moore, L. L. Wheelock, W. A. Sperry, Jos. Hoffman, Wm. Gauswitz, N. J. Schafer, Herman Schmidt, C. Butsch, Norman Evans, L. G. Nelson, L. L. Bennett and Carl K. Bennett. A Committee was appointed to canvass the meeting to see what might be secured at that time, and later the following ward committees were appointed for the same purpose: First ward, Dr. A. B. Stewart, J. Newsalt, Jas. W.

Connor; second ward, A. G. Leick, E. W. Richter, S. F. McClane; third ward, Lewis Lord, G. W. Peachey, A. J. Ogden; fourth ward, J. H. Robson, W. E. McClintock, Charles Fuermann.

On September 22, these committees reported that \$3,600 had been raised, and two other committees were appointed to assist in the work. These were: J. M. Diment, P. Ganser, Jos. Hoffman, J. Z. Barnard and J. A. Oppliger. The other committee was made up of E. C. Zamboni, C. J. Clefton, Charles Albertus and E. K. Whiting.

On September 29 they reported that the \$5,000 had been raised. Messrs. J. W. Connor, J. H. Robson, A. G. Leick, J. M. Diment, Lewis Lord and S. S. Green were appointed to collect this money and deposit it in the bank.

On December 2, 1896, a meeting of interested parties was held and the articles of incorporation were adopted. The incorporators were M. S. Alexander, H. M. Hastings, W. A. Sperry, C. S. Crandall, Geo. R. Kinyon, O. Lindesmith, Wm. Gausewitz, Peter Ganser, N. C. Nelson, Soren R. Nelson, S. G. Nelson, Herman Schmidt, L. L. Wheelock, Joseph Hoffman, J. M. Diment, Louis F. Hammel, John L. Hammel, Norman Evans, W. H. Kelly, N. J. Schafer, J. M. Schafer, W. R. Kinyon, J. A. Oppliger and Jacob Glaeser. The capital stock of the company was placed at \$20,000 and the company was given power to contract debts to the amount of \$10,000. The first officers of the company were: M. S. Alexander, president; J. M. Diment, vice president; L. G. Nelson, secretary; Herman Schmidt, treasurer. Board of directors, M. S. Alexander, H. M. Hastings, J. M. Diment, W. A. Sperry, T. H. Kelly, C. S. Crandall, Geo. R. Kinyon, O. Lindesmith, Wm. Gausewitz, Peter Ganser and N. C. Larson. Architect Snyder Lovell, of Chicago, was engaged to make the plans and specifications, and later L. F. Hammel was engaged as superintendent of construction. When they met to open the bids it was found that but one bid had been made, and it was for the sum of \$23,000 to complete the building ready for occupancy. It was decided to erect the building by days' work under Mr. Hammel's superintendency and thus the building was completed and gotten ready for the opening night.

### STATE PUBLIC SCHOOL.

One of the attractive features of the landscape in Owatonna is the beautiful state public school, with its slightly lawn, handsome buildings and well-tilled farm. The site adjoins the city on the west, and originally consisted of 160 acres of good farm land, the gift of the city of Owatonna, to which has been added eighty acres purchased by the state in 1897. The school is con-



ducted on the cottage plan, and the present buildings, thirteen in number, comprise an administration building, six cottages, a school house, hospital, superintendent's residence, a farm house, laundry and heating plant, and two barns, all irregularly and attractively placed on an undulating plat overlooking the beautiful Straight river valley and the city of Owatonna. The cost of the property, including land, buildings and improvements has been about \$266,000.

The school was established by act of the legislature in 1885, largely due to the efforts of the Hon. C. S. Crandall, of Owatonna, and was opened for the reception of children, in December, 1886. The commission, which selected the site and erected the first building, was composed of Governor L. F. Hubbard, C. S. Crandall, of Owatonna; Anthony Kelley, of Minneapolis; William Morin, of Albert Lea; John Byers, of Hastings, and B. B. Herbert, of Red Wing. The present superintendent is G. A. Merrill, and the resident officers are appointed by the board of directors without term. The board of control, which consists of Damon S. Cummings, of Waseca; C. R. Boostrom, of Austin, and Louis F. Hammel, of Owatonna, is appointed by the governor, one member every six years.

The school is for dependent and neglected children. They are admitted in the first instance upon orders from the courts; and most of them from the probate court through proceedings begun by the county commissioners, but some from the municipal and district courts, in which the parents or guardians are prosecuted for ill treating their children, and found to be improper guardians of them. Both boys and girls, otherwise eligible, are admitted at any age under fifteen, and are retained until they are fitted to be placed in homes and satisfactory homes are found. The statutory steps necessary to be taken are simple and divested of every feature resembling a criminal proceeding. Homelessness, dependence or ill treatment are the grounds upon which admittance may be obtained. All children committed become wards of the state, but may be returned to their parents by the voluntary action of the board of control. In the school the children are classified in families of from twenty to thirty each, each family occupying a cottage under the care of a matron and an assistant. A splendid herd of healthy cow affords good milk in abundance, and the farm yields vegetables in extensive variety, also fruits, including apples, plums, raspberries, strawberries and currents. The farm is a source of profit and a valuable means of education, classes of boys working and receiving instructions in the garden, greenhouse, orchard and on the farm. A graded school is conducted in a fine well furnished eight-room building, on the premises a little distance from the cottage



dwellers. The library of about a thousand well selected books in this building is a valuable aid to the school work.

The pupils are graded according to their educational status, as in the public schools. Six teachers are employed, and the several classes under their charge are instructed in sloyd, domestic science, kindergarten, vocal music and the subjects in the primary, intermediate, and grammar grades. These classes include all of the children in the school above four years of age, the kindergarten, including those from four to six.

When the children are placed out, a trial period of three months is given, during which the foster parents may return them at will. The indenture contract, which is signed when the child leaves the school, is so conditioned as to insure the child a speedy release from an unhappy or ill chosen home. It requires the foster parents to receive him as a member of the family, to send him to school, to see that he attends church, to care for him in sickness and to have him taught some useful occupation. At the end of the indenture period, when the child is eighteen years old, he is to receive a small sum of money, usually \$75. But the duty of the state does not end when the children are placed in homes. Adequate supervision for them is necessary to secure the fulfilment of the indenture contracts. For this purpose state agents are employed, and it is the duty of such agents to visit the children in homes and see that they receive kind treatment and such advantages as they need. The agents are also charged with the duty of personally investigating applications from families desiring to receive children.

## CHAPTER XXI

### OWATONNA ORGANIZATIONS

Masonic Orders—Pythian Societies—Odd Fellows' Lodges—Fraternal Insurance Lodges—Catholic Orders—Women's Clubs—Contributed by E. E. Bigelow, M. D.—Clubs and Organizations.

Owatonna is one of the fraternal centers of southern Minnesota, and all the leading orders are represented here. In the following article, Dr. E. E. Bigelow has gathered statistics which will prove of great value to all who are interested in the societies mentioned therein.

#### MASONIC ORDERS

**Star in the East Lodge, No. 33, A. F. and A. M.** On December 16, A. D. 1859, A. O. 741, a dispensation was granted to open and operate a lodge of Free and Accepted Masons at Owatonna, which was done, the first meeting being presided over by the right worshipful grand junior warden of Faribault Lodge, No. 9, with John Kelso as secretary. The lodge was named Star in the East, No. 33. On January 23, 1860, the first stated communication under the dispensation was held, and elected J. C. Whipple, W. M.; E. M. Morehouse, S. W.; Joel Wilson, J. W.; Nelson Morehouse, treasurer; John Kelso, secretary; Thomas Thompson, S. D., and David Lindersmith, J. D. The organization was formed by men who had first been made master Masons either at the Faribault or Wilton lodge. While the lodge was working under dispensation, it does not appear that any set of officers were elected, either J. C. Whipple, S. C. Williamson, J. W. Morford, W. R. Kinyon, W. H. Wilsey or E. M. Morehouse acting as W. M. On October 24, A. D. 1860, A. O. 741, a charter was granted, naming as officers: S. C. Williamson, W. M.; E. M. Morehouse, S. W., and Joel Wilson, J. W.

The following have been elected to the different offices since its final organization, the first named under each year being the worshipful master, the second the senior warden, and the third the junior warden. October 29, 1860, W. R. Kinyon, E. M. Morehouse, W. H. Wilsey, to continue through the year of 1861. 1863—J. W. Morford, Joel Wilson, W. H. Wilsey. 1865—J. W. Morford, W. R. Kinyon, W. H. Wilsey. 1866—J. W.

Morford, W. H. Kelley, H. C. Eldred. 1867—J. W. Morford, H. J. Lewis, A. B. Webber. 1868—J. W. Morford, H. J. Lewis, E. Scannell. 1869—H. J. Lewis, J. A. Robey, L. S. Padgham. 1870—J. W. Morford, J. A. Robey, L. S. Padgham. 1871—J. W. Morford, A. C. Hickman, Hiram Backus. 1872—A. C. Hickman, H. Backus, L. L. Wheelock. 1873—J. W. Morford, J. D. Holden, D. Whipple. 1874—J. D. Holden, A. C. Hickman, H. H. Rosebrock. 1875—J. D. Holden, A. C. Dodge, A. C. Gutterson. 1876—A. C. Dodge, M. B. Chadwick, N. C. Larson. 1877—A. C. Dodge, M. B. Chadwick, J. M. Burlingame. 1879—J. M. Burlingame, C. H. Randall, George D. Holden. 1880—L. L. Wheelock, H. H. Rosebrock, H. Birkett. 1881—J. D. Holden, I. U. Jones, N. C. Larson. 1882—J. D. Holden, M. B. Chadwick, H. S. Hill. 1883—M. B. Chadwick, H. S. Hill, I. H. DeWolf. 1884—M. B. Chadwick, H. S. Hill, J. Z. Barncard. 1885—H. Birkett, N. C. Larsen, C. W. Burdick. 1886—N. J. Schafer, C. W. Burdick, D. Moody. 1887—N. J. Schafer, C. W. Burdick, D. Downie. 1888—H. Birkett, David Downie, Geo. D. Holden. 1889—H. Birkett, David Downie, George D. Holden. 1890—Geo. D. Holden, C. W. Burdick, L. Anderson. 1891—N. J. Schafer, C. W. Burdick, James Morton. 1892—C. W. Burdick, Geo. Kinyon, H. H. Herick. 1893—Geo. D. Holden, Geo. R. Kinyon, H. H. Herick. 1894—M. B. Chadwick, P. J. Rolf, William Mork. 1895—P. J. Rolf, N. C. Larson, N. J. Schafer. 1896—P. J. Rolf, William Mork, C. H. Rosebrock. 1897—P. J. Rolf, Hans Anderson, C. H. Rosebrock. 1898—Hans Anderson, C. J. Balch, J. F. Rogers. 1899—Hans Anderson, C. J. Balch, J. F. Rogers. 1900—Hans Anderson, C. J. Balch, J. F. Rogers. 1901—C. J. Balch, J. F. Rogers, A. E. Sebelin. 1902—J. F. Rogers, P. J. Kuntz, W. J. Lieb. 1903—C. J. Balch, W. J. Leib, A. G. Pinkham. 1904—P. J. Kuntz, W. J. Leib, A. G. Pinkham. 1905—P. J. Kuntz, A. J. Pinkham, W. H. Vinton. 1906—A. J. Pinkham, W. H. Vinton, A. B. Stewart. 1907—W. H. Vinton, A. B. Stewart, M. J. Brown. 1908—A. B. Stewart, M. J. Brown, H. C. Hower. 1909—M. J. Brown, H. C. Howe, E. A. Brown. 1910—M. J. Brown, H. C. Howe, E. A. Brown.

Star in the East Lodge, A. F. & A. M., was organized in a small room over an old wooden building situated on the lot now occupied by the new Firemen's Hall. The hall was approached from an outside stairway, at the top of which was situated a boarded-up vestibule which served as the ante and preparation room. This vestibule, so the Hon. W. R. Kinyon, the first worshipful master under the charter, informs us, was not the warmest preparation room in the world, especially when the thermometer stood at 30 below zero, as often happened at the time of reception of candidates. At the completion of the Morford

Hall, over a wooden building where the Rosebrock Block now stands, the lodge became possessed of more comfortable quarters, where it remained until May 13, 1874, when it moved into the third-story hall in the Dresser Block, since owned by the National Farmers' Bank. This was an elaborate hall, with ante-room reception rooms, dining-room, kitchen and closets, all handily arranged and fitted with first-class furniture and paraphernalia of all kinds needed for comfort and convenience. Judge M. B. Chadwick had the honor of being made the first member in the new quarters. In 1873 the lodge was incorporated.

In the spring of 1903 it became evident, for the reason that the National Farmers' Bank had determined soon to remove the old building for the purpose of erecting the new one now occupied by them, that the lodge must look for new quarters again. William H. Kelley, then in the process of erecting the present Kelley Block, kindly consented to provide for the hall now occupied by the lodge, chapter and commandery, and which was dedicated and opened for use on January 14, A. D. 1903, A. O. 785. The most worshipful grand master, A. D. Countryman, who had consented to the same, was present, accompanied by his grand senior warden, Thomas Montgomery, with L. L. Wheelock as grand junior warden, W. J. Naylor as grand treasurer, T. J. Howe as grand secretary, and John Wesley Carter as grand chaplain, Grant Bronson as grand pursuivant, and others, members of the local lodge, opened a special grand lodge in the reception room adjoining the new hall, and with Henry Birkett, William Mork, Norman Evans and N. C. Larson as bearers of the lodge, and Rev. George C. Tanner as bearer of the book of constitutions, conducted by Rev. A. C. Pinkham as grand marshal, proceeded into the hall and dedicated it to Masonry in due and ample form. The new hall is amply provided with reception rooms, anterooms, closets for paraphernalia and regalia, dining-room and kitchen, together with electric lights and all other modern improvements for the comfort and convenience of the lodge members, who at this time number 122 in good standing, among whom are the best and most influential business men of the city and county. The regular communications of the lodge are held on the second and fourth Wednesday evenings of each month.

**Cedar Chapter, No. 123, Order of the Eastern Star.** This chapter was instituted at Masonic Hall on November 3, 1897. The first officers were: Rev. A. J. Pinkham, worthy patron, and Mrs. Nellie A. Balch, worthy matron, who, together with the following, were charter members: Mrs. Cornelia Mork, Mrs. Lula Hendrix, Mrs. Jessie Hall, Mrs. Augusta Fuerman, Mrs. A. F. Bennett, Mrs. Virginia Ames, Mrs. Louise Schafer, Mrs.

Albertta Rolf, Mrs. Matilda S. Lieb, and Anna Mork, Lilly Mork, Una E. Ames, Addie P. Balch, N. Maud Ames, G. W. Shaw, William Mork, C. J. Balch, David J. Ames, Geo. S. Hall, N. J. Schafer and W. J. Lieb. The present officers are: John N. Nelson, worthy patron, and Mrs. Minnie Thompson, worthy matron. There are sixty-seven members, and meetings are held at 7:30, at Masonic Hall, on the first and third Wednesday evenings of each month. The Eastern Star was instituted for the purpose of extending the social and instructive benefits of the Masonic fraternity to the wives and daughters and sisters of Masons in good standing in the order, and it at once became a very popular and influential organization, its influence being felt all over the country. Its members are always cordially received in sister lodges wherever met.

**Owatonna Chapter, No. 15, R. A. M.** On September 28, A. D. 1866, A. O. 748, a dispensation was granted to W. R. Kinyon, M. F. Louth, L. H. Kelley, T. G. Patch, J. W. Morford, H. J. Lewis, J. F. White, N. Hubbard and R. M. Dunberry, by C. W. Nash, grand high priest of Royal Masons of Minnesota, who appointed M. F. Louth most excellent high priest; W. R. Kinyon, most excellent king, and L. H. Kelley, most excellent scribe. These companions, with others, held their first convocation at the Masonic Hall on October 15, A. D. 1866, and effected a full organization, the M. E. H. P. appointing J. W. Morford, C. H.; H. J. Lewis, P. S.; E. R. Lathrop, R. A. C.; J. F. White, treasurer; T. G. Patch, secretary; Chas. Case, G. M. 3d Veil; N. Hubbard, G. M. 2d Veil; E. M. Hawley, G. M. 1st Veil, and R. M. Dunberry, sentry. A code of by-laws, prepared by W. R. Kinyon, J. W. Morford and T. G. Patch, was presented and adopted. The first regular convocation was held on the evening of November 2, 1866, A. O. 748, all of the above appointed officers retaining the same positions, with the exception that E. R. Lathrop was appointed C. H. and J. W. Morford was appointed R. A. C. On October 22, 1867, A. O. 748, the organization received its charter and elected the following officers, who were duly installed at the next regular convocation, held on Friday, December 20, 1867: W. R. Kinyon, M. E. H. P.; M. F. Louth, E. K.; L. H. Kelley, E. S.; J. W. Morford, C. H.; H. J. Lewis, P. S.; A. M. Kinyon, R. A. C.; W. F. Pettit, treasurer, and A. B. Webber, secretary.

Since the regular organization of the chapter the following officers have been elected to and been installed into the elective offices: In 1868, the same as above were re-elected. 1869—The above officers were re-elected. 1870—A. B. Webber, M. E. H. P.; W. H. Wilsey, E. K.; S. B. Washburn, E. S.; W. T. Kittridge, C. H.; H. J. Lewis, P. S.; J. W. Morford, R. A. C.; W. R.



Kinyon, treasurer; T. J. Patch, secretary. 1871—W. R. Kinyon, M. E. H. P.; W. H. Wilsey, E. K.; S. B. Washburn, E. S.; J. W. Morford, C. H.; H. J. Lewis, P. S.; H. Backus, R. A. C.; E. M. Morehouse, treasurer; T. G. Patch, secretary. 1872—W. R. Kinyon, M. E. H. P.; W. H. Wilsey, E. K.; L. S. Padgham, E. S.; J. W. Morford, C. H.; H. Backus, P. S.; T. W. Irving, R. A. C.; T. J. Howe, treasurer; T. G. Patch, secretary. 1873—L. L. Wheelock, M. E. H. P.; J. W. Morford, E. S.; W. H. Wilsey, E. K.; A. C. Dodge, C. H.; T. W. Irving, R. A. C.; E. M. Morehouse, treasurer; T. G. Patch, secretary. 1874—W. R. Kinyon, M. E. H. P.; W. H. Wilsey, E. K.; A. C. Hickman, E. S.; A. C. Dodge, C. H.; H. Backus, P. S.; T. W. Irving, R. A. C.; L. L. Bennett, treasurer; T. G. Patch, secretary. 1875—W. R. Kinyon, M. E. H. P.; L. L. Wheelock, E. K.; L. L. Bennett, E. S.; J. W. Morford, C. H.; A. C. Dodge, P. S.; S. H. Stowers, R. A. C.; H. H. Rosebrock, treasurer; M. L. Strong, secretary. 1876—J. W. Morford, M. E. H. P.; M. F. Louth, E. K.; J. A. Oppliger, E. S.; S. H. Stowers, C. H.; A. C. Dodge, P. S.; T. W. Irving, R. A. C.; H. H. Rosebrock, treasurer; M. L. Strong, secretary. 1877—J. D. Holden, M. E. H. P.; J. M. Burlingame, E. K.; N. C. Larson, E. S.; S. H. Stowers, C. H.; J. R. Fox, P. S.; H. H. Rosebrock, R. A. C.; W. H. Wilsey, treasurer; M. L. Strong, secretary. 1878—J. M. Burlingame, M. E. H. P.; H. H. Rosebrock, E. K.; A. Graham, E. S.; L. L. Bennett, C. H.; J. D. Holden, P. S.; H. Birkett, R. A. C.; W. H. Wilsey, treasurer; M. L. Strong, secretary. 1879—J. W. Morford, M. E. H. P.; N. C. Larson, E. K.; J. M. Burlingame, E. S.; H. Birkett, C. H.; J. D. Holden, P. S.; H. H. Rosebrock, R. A. C.; W. R. Kinyon, treasurer. M. L. Strong, secretary. 1880—W. R. Kinyon, M. E. H. P.; L. L. Wheelock, E. K.; L. L. Bennett, E. S.; H. H. Rosebrock, C. H.; J. D. Holden, P. S.; J. W. Morford, R. A. C.; G. F. Albertus, treasurer; E. Downie, secretary. 1881—H. Birkett, M. E. H. P.; J. D. Holden, E. K.; G. F. Albertus, E. S.; H. H. Rosebrock, C. H.; L. L. Bennett, P. S.; N. C. Larson, R. A. C.; W. R. Kinyon, treasurer; T. J. Howe, secretary. 1882—L. L. Bennett, M. E. H. P.; T. J. Howe, E. K.; G. F. Albertus, E. S.; H. H. Rosebrock, C. H.; J. D. Holden, P. S.; J. W. Morford, R. A. C.; W. R. Kinyon, treasurer; H. H. Luers, secretary. 1883—J. D. Holden, M. E. H. P.; T. J. Howe, E. K.; H. H. Rosebrock, E. S.; J. Z. Barncard, C. H.; H. Birkett, P. S.; J. W. Morford, R. A. C.; W. R. Kinyon, treasurer; H. H. Luers, secretary. 1884—J. D. Holden, M. E. H. P.; H. H. Rosebrock, E. K.; H. S. Hill, E. S.; J. Z. Barncard, C. H.; H. Birkett, P. S.; N. C. Larson, R. A. C.; W. R. Kinyon, treasurer; H. H. Luers, secretary. 1885—L. L. Bennett, M. E. H. P.; J. Z. Barncard, E. K.;

T. J. Howe, E. S.; N. C. Larson, C. H.; J. D. Holden, P. S.; H. Birkett, R. A. C.; W. R. Kinyon, treasurer; H. H. Luers, secretary 1886—J. Z. Barncard, M. E. H. P.; N. J. Schaefer, E. K.; N. C. Larson, E. S.; D. S. Coverdale, C. H.; H. H. Rosebrock, P. S.; E. E. Bigelow, R. A. C.; L. L. Bennett, treasurer, H. H. Luers, secretary. 1887—N. J. Schaefer, M. E. H. P.; T. J. Howe, E. K.; H. H. Rosebrock, E. S.; E. E. Bigelow, C. H.; C. W. Burdick, P. S.; H. H. Luers, R. A. C.; G. F. Albertus, treasurer; J. W. Connor, secretary. 1888—N. J. Schaefer, M. E. H. P.; T. J. Howe, E. K.; H. H. Rosebrock, E. S.; E. E. Bigelow, C. H.; J. M. Diment, P. S.; F. F. Grant, R. A. C.; J. W. Connor, secretary. 1889—E. E. Bigelow, M. E. H. P.; H. H. Rosebrock, E. K.; J. W. Connor, E. S.; H. Birkett, C. H.; J. M. Diment, P. S.; E. Downie, R. A. C.; W. H. Wilsey, secretary. 1890—H. H. Rosebrock, M. E. H. P.; T. J. Howe, E. K.; N. J. Schaefer, E. S.; C. W. Burdick, C. H.; J. M. Diment, P. S.; G. R. Kinyon, R. A. C.; W. H. Wilsey, secretary. 1891—T. J. Howe, M. E. H. P.; N. J. Schaefer, E. K.; C. W. Burdick, E. S.; George R. Kinyon, C. H.; J. M. Diment, P. S.; C. H. Rosebrock, R. A. C.; W. H. Wilsey, secretary. 1892—T. J. Howe, M. E. H. P.; C. W. Burdick, E. K.; Geo. R. Kinyon, E. S.; C. H. Rosebrock, C. H.; J. M. Diment, P. S.; J. Palmer Johnson, R. A. C.; W. H. Wilsey, secretary. 1893—T. J. Howe, M. E. H. P.; Geo. R. Kinyon, E. K.; C. H. Rosebrock, E. S.; J. Palmer Johnson, C. H.; J. M. Diment, P. S.; William Mork, R. A. C.; W. H. Wilsey, secretary. 1894—T. J. Howe, M. E. H. P.; N. J. Schaefer, E. K.; C. H. Rosebrock, E. S.; J. Palmer Johnson, C. H.; J. M. Diment, P. S.; William Mork, R. A. C.; W. H. Wilsey, secretary. 1895—L. L. Bennett, M. E. H. P.; N. J. Schaefer, E. K.; C. H. Rosebrock, E. S.; J. Palmer Johnson, C. H.; J. M. Diment, P. S.; William Mork, R. A. C.; W. H. Wilsey, secretary. 1897—T. J. Howe, M. E. H. P.; N. J. Schaefer, E. K.; Robert Crickmore, E. S.; W. H. Vinton, C. H.; Hans Anderson, P. S.; C. J. Balch, R. A. C.; Geo. Clark, secretary. 1898—N. J. Schaefer, M. E. H. P.; Robert Crickmore, E. K.; William Mork, E. S.; J. P. Johnson, C. H.; Hans Anderson, P. S.; C. J. Balch, R. A. C.; G. E. Hall, secretary. 1900—N. J. Schaefer, M. E. H. P.; Robert Crickmore, E. K.; C. J. Balch, E. S.; E. E. Bigelow, C. H.; Hans Anderson, P. S.; J. F. Rogers, R. A. C.; W. J. Lieb, secretary. 1901—Hans Anderson, M. E. H. P.; C. J. Balch, E. K.; J. F. Rogers, E. S.; E. E. Bigelow, C. H.; J. M. Diment, P. S.; William Mork, R. A. C.; W. J. Lieb, secretary. 1902—Hans Anderson, M. E. H. P.; C. J. Balch, E. K.; J. F. Rogers, E. S.; T. J. Howe, C. H.; E. E. Bigelow, P. S.; William Mork, R. A. C.; W. J. Lieb, secretary. 1903—Hans Anderson, M. E. H. P.; C. J. Balch, E. K.; J. F. Rogers, E. S.;

C. W. Burdick, C. H.; E. E. Bigelow, P. S.; W. H. Vinton, R. A. C.; W. J. Lieb, secretary. 1904—Robert Crickmore, M. E. H. P.; C. J. Balch, E. K.; William Mork, E. S.; C. W. Burdick, C. H.; E. E. Bigelow, P. S.; H. C. Howe, secretary. 1905—Robert Crickmore, M. E. H. P.; C. J. Balch, E. K.; William Mork, E. S.; E. E. Bigelow, C. H.; P. H. Evans, P. S.; Geo. R. Kinyon, R. A. C.; P. J. Swanson, secretary. 1906—Robert Crickmore, M. E. H. P.; C. J. Balch, E. K.; William Mork, E. S.; A. B. Stewart, C. H.; P. J. Evans, P. S.; Geo. R. Kinyon, R. A. C.; P. J. Swanson, secretary. 1907—Robert Crickmore, M. E. H. P.; C. J. Balch, E. K.; William Mork, E. S.; A. B. Stewart, C. H.; P. J. Evans, P. S.; Geo. R. Kinyon, R. A. C.; P. J. Swanson, secretary. 1908—Robert Crickmore, M. E. H. P.; H. C. Howe, E. K.; William Mork, E. S.; A. B. Stewart, C. H.; P. J. Evans, P. S.; Geo. R. Kinyon, R. A. C.; Harvey S. Dartt, secretary. 1909—Robert Crickmore, M. E. H. P.; A. B. Stewart, E. K.; W. H. Vinton, E. S.; C. A. Tincher, C. H.; P. J. Evans, P. S.; Geo. R. Kinyon, R. A. C.; Harvey S. Dartt, secretary. 1910—P. H. Evans, M. E. H. P.; A. B. Stewart, E. K.; H. C. Howe, E. S.; C. A. Tincher, C. H.; J. M. Diment, P. S.; P. H. Nayler, R. A. C.; Harvey S. Dartt, secretary.

There are at this time sixty members of the chapter in good standing, and the chapter is rapidly increasing in its membership from the brightest young men of the city and vicinity. Chapter holds its convocations on the first and second Friday evenings of each month.

**Cyrene Commandery, No. 9, K. T.** A dispensation was granted by H. L. Carver, of St. Paul, the then grand commander of the jurisdiction of Minnesota, authorizing the organization of Cyrene Commandery No. 9, at Owatonna, on February 17, 1874. The first conclave was held in the Masonic Hall, as known at the time, in the third story of the Dresser block, afterwards owned by the Farmers' National Bank, and the following officers were elected: C. H. Hathaway, E. C.; J. W. Morford, G.; S. H. Stowers, C. G.; H. R. Moore, S. W.; T. W. Irving, J. W.; Hiram Backus, prelate; H. J. Lewis, treasurer; T. G. Patch, recorder; H. H. Rosebrock, warder. This list of officers also comprise the whole list of the charter members of the commandery, which grew rapidly from the start until in August, 1875, A. O. 757 its membership had increased to sixty-two knights in good standing, twenty members of whom resided at Waseca and vicinity, the balance of membership being principally from Steele county. The commandery from its inception became the leading social fountain-head for the best class of the citizens of

Owatonna. Conclaves are regularly held on the evenings of the second and fourth Mondays in Masonic Hall.

On January 14, A. D. 1903, A. O. 784, the new Masonic Hall in the third story of the Kelley block was dedicated and with the Masonic lodge and chapter jointly moved its quarters to the same. Through the generous courtesy of one of its oldest members, W. H. Kelley, now deceased, the commandery was presented with a five-year lease of the new asylum. As a small remuneration for this liberality the commandery voted a life honorary membership to Mr. Kelley. In the elegantly arranged asylum the commandery is provided with a fine equipment of furniture, paraphernalia and regalia. Cyrene Commandery No. 9 has furnished two right eminent grand commanders of the Minnesota Grand Commandery: Henry Birkett, who was elected R. E. G. C. at the annual conclave of the grand commandery at Owatonna in June, 1886, and R. L. McCormick, who also held the office of R. E. G. C. one year. In the early years of the commandery it became quite noted for its excursions in a body accompanied by their ladies and a cornet band to the annual conclaves of the grand commandery when held in different parts of the state, and twenty-five sir knights and their ladies accompanied by the Owatonna cornet band made a pilgrimage to Chicago as part of the escort of the grand commandery of Minnesota in August, 1880, to attend the nineteenth conclave of the Knights Templar of the United States. On these occasions the Owatonna men were well mentioned as to their appearance in ranks and proficiency as a drill corps. Although the membership has heretofore been somewhat depleted through the removal of many knights to other communities and not a few beyond the Great River of Time, today the commandery is rapidly filling up with our young and most influential business men of this jurisdiction. The stated conclaves of the commandery are held on the second and fourth Monday of each month, at 7:30 in the evening from October 1 to April 1, and at 8:00 in the evening from April 1 to October 1.

All applicants for the orders of Knighthood must be members of the Masonic lodge and chapter, in good standing. A loss of membership in either of the Blue lodge or chapter causes an immediate loss of membership in the commandery.

The following officers have been elected to fill the various offices from year to year since its organization. 1874—C. H. Hathaway, E. C.; J. W. Morford, G.; Smith Stowers, C. G.; L. L. Wheelock, P.; A. C. Dodge, S. W.; T. W. Irving, J. W.; E. M. Morehouse, treasurer; T. G. Patch, recorder; H. H. Rosebrock, W.; J. A. Oppliger, St. B.; W. H. Wilsey, Sw. B.; L. S. Padgham, 1st G.; T. J. Howe, 2d G.; Hiram Backus, 3d

G.; G. F. Albertus, sentinel. Installed April 12, 1875—C. H. Hathaway, E. C.; J. W. Morford, G.; S. H. Stowers, C. G.; L. L. Wheelock, P.; A. C. Dodge, S. W.; T. W. Irving, J. W.; E. M. Morehouse, treasurer; M. L. Strong, recorder. Installed April 24, 1876—C. H. Hathaway, E. C.; J. W. Morford, G.; M. L. Strong, C. G.; L. L. Wheelock, P.; T. W. Irving, S. W.; H. H. Rosebrock, J. W.; G. F. Albertus, treasurer; S. H. Stowers, recorder; J. W. Hall, sentinel. Installed March 26, 1877—W. R. Kinyon, E. C.; T. W. Irving, G.; M. L. Strong, C. G.; L. L. Wheelock, P.; J. W. Morford, S. W.; Henry Birkett, J. W.; G. F. Albertus, treasurer; S. H. Stowers, recorder; J. W. Hall, sentinel. April 8, 1878—W. R. Kinyon, E. C.; R. L. McCormack, G.; M. L. Strong, C. G.; L. L. Wheelock, P.; H. Birkett, S. W.; T. W. Irving, J. W.; G. F. Albertus, treasurer; S. H. Stowers, recorder. April 14, 1879—R. L. McCormack, E. C.; T. W. Irving, G.; M. L. Strong, C. G.; L. L. Wheelock, P.; W. H. Wilsey, S. W.; J. W. Morford, J. W.; G. F. Albertus, treasurer; S. H. Stowers, recorder. March 30, 1880—R. L. McCormack, E. C.; H. Birkett, G.; T. W. Irving, C. G.; L. L. Wheelock, P.; G. R. Buckman, S. W.; W. H. Wilsey, J. W.; G. F. Albertus, treasurer; W. H. Maes, recorder. April 25, 1881—Henry Birkett, E. C.; A. C. Hickman, G.; T. W. Irving, C. G.; L. L. Wheelock, P.; H. E. Strong, S. W.; W. C. Thayer, J. W.; G. F. Albertus, treasurer; W. H. Maes, recorder. April 8, 1882—H. Birkett, E. C.; L. L. Wheelock, G.; G. R. Buckman, C. G.; A. C. Hickman, P.; W. C. Thayer, S. W.; W. H. Maes, J. W.; G. F. Albertus, treasurer; J. W. Morford, recorder. March 24, 1883—L. L. Wheelock, E. C.; A. C. Hickman, G.; G. R. Buckman, C. G.; G. C. Tanner, P.; W. C. Thayer, S. W.; W. H. Maes, J. W.; G. F. Albertus, treasurer; W. H. Donaldson, recorder. March 24, 1884—L. L. Wheelock, E. C.; G. R. Buckman, G.; L. L. Bennet, C. G.; G. C. Tanner, P.; J. D. Holden, S. W.; N. C. Larson, J. W.; G. F. Albertus, treasurer; T. J. Howe, recorder. March 23, 1885—J. M. Diment, E. C.; D. S. Cummings, G.; F. F. Grant, C. G.; G. C. Tanner, P.; J. D. Holden, S. W.; N. C. Larson, J. W.; G. F. Albertus, treasurer; L. L. Bennett, recorder. April 12, 1886—J. M. Diment, E. C.; D. S. Cummings, G.; F. F. Grant, C. G.; G. C. Tanner, P.; N. C. Larson, S. W.; N. J. Schafer, J. W.; W. H. Wilsey, treasurer; L. L. Bennett, recorder. March 28, 1887—F. F. Grant, E. C.; G. R. Buckman, G.; N. C. Larson, C. G.; L. L. Wheelock, P.; N. J. Schafer, S. W.; J. E. Truesdell, J. W.; H. H. Rosebrock, treasurer; T. J. Howe, recorder. March 26, 1888—G. R. Buckman, E. C.; H. H. Rosebrock, G.; E. G. Wood, C. G.; L. L. Wheelock, P.; E. E. Bigelow, S. W.; J. W. Aughenbaugh, J. W.; L. L. Bennett, treasurer; T. J. Howe, recorder. April 8, 1889—



G. R. Buckman, E. C.; H. H. Rosebrock, G.; E. G. Wood, C. G.; L. L. Wheelock, P.; E. E. Bigelow, S. W.; J. W. Aughenbaugh, J. W.; L. L. Bennett, treasurer; T. J. Howe, recorder. March 24, 1890—H. H. Rosebrock, E. C.; J. W. Aughenbaugh, G.; N. J. Schafer, C. G.; L. L. Wheelock, P.; M. M. Davidson, S. W.; J. W. Connor, J. W.; L. L. Bennett, treasurer; Smith H. Stowers, recorder. March 23, 1891—H. H. Rosebrock, E. C.; W. J. Aughenbaugh, G.; N. J. Schafer, C. G.; L. L. Wheelock, P.; Geo. R. Kinyon, S. W.; J. W. Connor, J. W.; L. L. Bennett, treasurer; S. H. Stowers, recorder. April 11, 1892—Geo. R. Kinyon, E. C.; N. J. Schafer, G.; J. M. Diment, C. G.; L. L. Wheelock, P.; J. W. Connor, S. W.; N. C. Larson, J. W.; L. L. Bennett, treasurer; J. Palmer Johnson, recorder. March 12, 1894—E. E. Bigelow, E. C.; J. W. Connor, G.; William Mork, C. G.; L. L. Wheelock, P.; N. Evans, S. W.; H. K. Tompkins, J. W.; L. L. Bennett, treasurer; J. P. Johnson, recorder. April 8, 1895—J. W. Connor, E. C.; William Mork, G.; Norman Evans, C. G.; H. K. Tompkins, S. W.; N. J. Schafer, J. W.; L. L. Wheelock, P.; L. L. Bennett, treasurer; J. P. Johnson, recorder. March 11, 1896—J. W. Connor, E. C.; William Mork, G.; N. Evans, C. G.; L. L. Wheelock, P.; H. K. Tompkins, S. W.; N. J. Schafer, J. W.; J. P. Johnson, recorder; L. L. Bennett, treasurer. May 10, 1897—William Mork, E. C.; N. Evans, G.; H. K. Tompkins, C. G.; E. E. Bigelow, P.; C. J. Balch, S. W.; Hans Anderson, J. W.; L. L. Bennett, T.; J. P. Johnson, R. May 9, 1898—William Mork, E. C.; N. Evans, G.; N. J. Schafer, C. G.; L. L. Wheelock, P.; C. J. Balch, S. W.; Hans Anderson, J. W.; L. L. Bennett, T.; J. P. Johnson, R. May 8, 1899—Alfred G. Pinkham, E. C.; N. J. Schafer, G.; C. J. Balch, C. G.; L. L. Wheelock, P.; H. Anderson, S. W.; S. V. R. Hendrix, J. W.; L. L. Bennett, T.; J. P. Johnson, R. May 14, 1890—A. G. Pinkham, E. C.; N. J. Schafer, G.; C. J. Balch, C. G.; L. L. Wheelock, P.; H. Anderson, S. W.; N. C. Larson, J. W.; L. L. Bennett, treasurer; J. P. Johnson, recorder. March 11, 1901—N. J. Schafer, E. C.; C. J. Balch, G.; J. W. Connor, C. G.; H. Anderson, S. W.; N. C. Larson, J. W.; L. L. Wheelock, P.; L. L. Bennett, treasurer; J. P. Johnson, recorder. March 17, 1902—T. J. Howe, E. C.; C. J. Balch, G.; J. W. Connor, C. G.; H. Anderson, S. W.; N. C. Larson, J. W.; L. L. Wheelock, P.; L. L. Bennett, treasurer, J. P. Johnson, recorder. March 9, 1903—T. J. Howe, E. C.; C. J. Balch, G.; J. W. Connor, C. G.; L. L. Wheelock, P.; H. Anderson, S. W.; N. C. Larson, J. W.; L. L. Bennett, treasurer; W. H. Vinton, recorder. March 14, 1904—J. M. Diment, E. C.; C. J. Balch, G.; G. R. Kinyon, C. G.; L. L. Wheelock, P.; C. H. Rosebrock, S. W.; N. C. Larson, J. W.; P. H. Evans, treasurer; W. H. Vinton, recorder.

March 13, 1905—J. M. Diment, E. C.; C. J. Balch, G.; G. R. Kinyon, C. G.; L. L. Wheelock, P.; C. H. Rosebrock, S. W.; N. C. Larson, J. W.; P. H. Evans, treasurer; W. H. Vinton, recorder. March 11, 1906—J. M. Diment, E. C.; J. C. Balch, G.; C. R. Kinyon, C. G.; L. L. Wheelock, P.; C. H. Rosebrock, S. W.; N. C. Larson, J. W.; P. H. Evans, treasurer; W. H. Vinton, recorder. March 11, 1907—N. C. Larson, E. C.; C. H. Rosebrock, G.; H. C. Howe, C. G.; L. L. Wheelock, P.; A. B. Stewart, S. W.; J. M. Diment, J. W.; G. R. Kinyon, treasurer; W. J. Vinton, recorder. March 9, 1908—C. H. Rosebrock, E. C.; H. C. Howe, G.; A. B. Stewart, C. G.; W. H. Vinton, P.; G. R. Kinyon, S. W.; J. M. Diment, J. W.; P. H. Evans, treasurer; G. L. Lieb, recorder. March 8, 1909—A. B. Stewart, E. C.; H. C. Howe, G.; P. H. Evans, C. G.; W. H. Vinton, P.; W. C. Zamboni, S. W.; C. A. Tincher, J. W.; G. R. Kinyon, treasurer; G. L. Lieb, recorder. Upon the resignation of G. L. Lieb, April 26, 1909, E. E. Bigelow was appointed to fill the vacancy of recorder for the remainder of the year. The late J. W. Hall held the office of sentinel from 1875 up to 1878. The late G. W. Shaw held the office of sentinel from 1879 up to 1908. Sir Knight Shaw was always a thorough and painstaking official.

#### ODD FELLOW LODGES.

**Star of the West Lodge, No. 14, I. O. O. F.** Jacob Newsalt, then a member of Prairie Lodge No. 7, Winona, Minnesota, accompanied by E. K. Smith and R. C. Ambler, on August 9, 1864, went to Rochester, Minnesota, where his companions were initiated by Rochester Lodge No. 13, receiving all the degrees appertaining to the subordinate lodge of Odd Fellows. The Rochester lodge courteously remitted the initiation fees, the same being used to procure a charter which was granted on December 28, 1864, and Star of the West Lodge No. 14, I. O. O. F., was duly instituted by M. W. G. M., C. D. Strong, assisted by P. G. M. M., O. J. Noble, the charter members being Jacob Newsalt, Dr. W. H. Twiford, E. K. Smith, P. J. Smith, Eben. Durham and William Hamburg.

The officers elected and installed were J. Newsalt, N. G.; E. K. Smith, V. G.; W. H. Twiford, secretary; William Hamburg, treasurer. During the first term of six months three members, including Hon. A. C. Hickman, were admitted by card and twelve by initiation. The officers chosen for the second term commencing July 1, 1865, were E. K. Smith, N. G.; L. Bixby, V. G.; A. C. Hickman, secretary; D. B. Marble, treasurer; J. Newsalt, D. D. G. M.

In June, 1907, the lodge was consolidated with the Coetha

lodge, No. 38, which was organized in 1873. Soon after the organization of Star of the West lodge it built the upper story of the Opplinger building and occupied it as its home till in 1907, when the lodge sold its interest to the National Farmers' Bank that, with the rest of the old block, it might be torn down to be replaced by the present bank building, and removed its quarters to the present new home in the Parrot & Smith building which is supplied with all of the up-to-date modern improvements to be had from any source. According to the last term report the lodge has \$3,192.62 in loans and bank certificates, \$1,546.85 in lodge furniture and \$465 invested in paraphernalia, making a total valuation of its personal effects \$5,204.47, besides cash in the treasury for its incidental expenses. The present officers are L. A. Disbro, N. G., and E. A. Haines, V. G.

**Coetha Lodge No. 38, I. O. O. F.** This lodge was organized at Owatonna April 25, 1873, by Grand Master E. K. Smith, of Owatonna, assisted by a vice grand master. The first officers of the lodge were Jacob Newsalt, N. G.; Lewie Bion, V. G.; R. Joos, P. S.; G. Siebolt, R. S.; A. Butsch, treasurer. The lodge, for some time, held its meetings in Star of the West Hall over the Dresser building, then moving into the Adam Butsch hall where it remained until 1879, when it moved into the Morehouse hall on Browday. In 1887 the lodge had fifty-two members and was well provided with funds and lodge paraphernalia. The lodge removed to the hall in the Thon laundry building in 1902, where it remained until June, 1907, when it consolidated with the Star of the West lodge, thus creating a strong lodge out of two weak ones, forty-seven members coming from the Coetha lodge and seventy-five from the Star of the West lodge, to make a total of 126 members. About this time the consolidated lodges secured the whole third story of the Parrot & Smith block which had been purposely fitted up with ample hall room, reception rooms, dining rooms, kitchen and closets.

**Central Encampment No. 4, I. O. O. F.** A dispensation having been granted, on March 31, 1869, C. C. Comee, D. B. Marble, Luther Bixby, E. K. Smith, J. W. Daniels, A. S. Mygatt, William Reynolds, William Pepper, with C. A. Strong and others from Rochester Lodge, No. 13, met at Star of the West Hall and all being third degree Odd Fellows, as required, were organized by C. A. Strong, D. D. G. S., and C. C. Comee, G. M., as Encampment No. 4. Third degree members E. B. Crooker, J. W. Dresser, C. W. Hastings, John Middough, H. M. Brown, C. S. Crandall and A. C. Hickman were added at the two following meetings of the encampment. The first officers were C. C. Comee, C. P.; D. B. Marble, H. P.; E. K. Smith, S. W.; J. W. Daniels, J. W.; A. S. Mygatt, secretary. Among

the prominent members, now officials of the encampment, are S. A. Kubat, H. P.; O. L. Turner, S. W.; F. A. Rosenthal, J. W.; J. N. Niles, scribe; Robert Dinninger, treasurer; George H. Peterson, sentinel. The encampment meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month, at Star of the West Hall where they have all of the necessary high-class regalia and paraphernalia. This order of Odd Fellowship is one step higher than the subordinate lodge, only third degree Odd Fellows being eligible to membership in the encampment. The encampment now numbers thirty-three members.

**Canton No. 12, I. O. O. F.** This, the highest order of Odd Fellowship, was instituted at Owatonna, March 31, 1890, by Lieutenant Commander John C. Underwood and Adjutant General G. T. Frost, of the department of Minnesota, with the following charter members: J. H. Helwig, Jacob Newsalt, S. N. Lund, George H. Peterson, Emil Thiemer, A. A. Brison, Robert Dinninger, J. H. Shaw, Wm. Wicklow, F. C. Webb, O. S. Morehouse, James Brown, George Parrott, John Reich, O. B. McClintock, F. Fibgard, E. M. Twiford, C. Weise, W. A. Dynes and Geo. Peachey. The members of the Canton are of necessity members of the encampment, so hold meetings at the same dates of the encampment; the encampment holding its meetings in the earlier portion of the evening. There are eighteen members of the Canton at the present time and is now presided over by S. A. Kubat, captain of the Canton, who is an enthusiastic Odd Fellow and a great lover of Odd Fellowship. Among the veteran Odd Fellows are found George H. Peterson, present clerk of the canton; Robert Dinninger, accountant; E. L. Haines, ensign; Emil Thiemer and H. H. Helwig, privates, the ranks having been depleted by death of the larger share of the charter members, others having either dropped out of the ranks or moved out of the jurisdiction, their places having been filled by others.

**Alma Rebecca Lodge No. 27, I. O. O. F.** This lodge was instituted November 29, 1887, with the following charter members: Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Newsalt, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Peterson, Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Ogle, Mr. and Mrs. Emil Thiemer, Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Webb, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Luce, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Reynolds, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Peachey, Mrs. Sarah McDonald, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Helwig and Mr. and Mrs. John Cottier. The present officers for the term commencing January 1, 1910, are Mrs. Emily Hosfield, N. G.; Mrs. Gertie Mitchell, V. G.; Mrs. Elizabeth P. Peterson secretary, and Mrs. Mary Davis, treasurer. There are fifty-three sisters and twenty brothers in good standing in the lodge. During the first term of the Star of the West lodge a



Rebecca lodge was formed in which all scarlet degree members and their wives were entitled to membership, but for some reason the lodge was abandoned until the above lodge was formed.

**Owatonna Rebecca Lodge No. 180, I. O. O. F.** This lodge was instituted May 21, 1900, by Mrs. Alice A. Kelsey, president of assembly, and Mrs. Eunice Melville, secretary of assembly, with the following charter members: E. A. Luce, Anna Twiford, W. J. Woods, Mary Woods, Harriet Howe, Fanny Denny, C. J. Burdick, Robena Burdick, John Klima, Jennie Klima, John Reash, Nellie Reash, S. N. Lund, G. W. Shaw, Chas. J. Shaw, Mat Bion, Rachel Bion, Maggie Cherry, Maggie Woods, Lutheria Disbrow, Emily Smersh, F. M. Smersh, Anna Kubat, Nancy Wilson, Galena Mudeking, E. S. Simpson and Joana Sampson.

The first officers were Maggie Woods, N. G.; Fanny Denny, V. G.; Harriet Howe, recorder and financial secretary; Jennie Klema, treasurer; Joana Sampson, warden; Robena Burdick, conductor; Elizabeth Luce, chaplain; John Klima, O. G.; Maggie Cherry, I. G.; Mary Woods, R. S. N. G.; Galena Mudeking, L. S. N. G.; Lutheria Disbrow, R. S. V. G.; Rachel Bion, L. S. V. G.

The present officers are Lutheria Disbrow, N. G.; Mattie Turner, V. G.; Grace V. Luce, recorder and financial secretary; Ellen Niles, treasurer; Ellen Wright, warden; Anna Kinny, conductor; Cora D. Pettie, chaplain; O. L. Turner, O. G.; Sarah Hayes, I. G.; Jennie Klima, R. S. N. G.; Fannie Barker, L. S. N. G.; Maud Norton, R. S. V. G.; Sarah Morrell, L. S. V. T. There are now seventy members in the order.

These organizations were instituted and are maintained on account of their special beneficial and social features which they embrace and form a large adjunct to the Star of the West lodge in whose hall they hold their meetings, the Alma No. 27 on second and fourth Friday evenings at 7:30 o'clock, and the Owatonna No. 180 on second and fourth Monday evenings at 7:30 o'clock.

### PYTHIAN ORDERS.

**Owatonna Lodge No. 50, Knights of Pythias.** This lodge was instituted in Castle Hall at Owatonna on November 14, 1888, by the officiating grand officers, F. D. McDonald, P. G. C.; C. H. Tasker, G. C.; Paul Higgins, C. V. C. pro tem.; Fred E. Wheaton, G. P. pro tem.; Grier M. Orr, G. K. R. S.; C. Talbert, G. M. A.; A. C. Gidfrey, G. I. G. pro tem.; W. A. Cunningham, G. O. G. The lodge received its charter September 11, 1889.

The charter members were John E. Shipman, Charles E. Clifford, John H. Adair, Sidney B. North, Frank C. Webb, John



H. Luers, Edward Downie, Geo. R. Forsyth, James A. Harris, Wm. J. Webber, Geo. W. Shaw, Albert J. Katz, James W. Connor, John Cottier, Wm. F. Barker, Wm. A. Bailey, Alfred C. Webber, Harris E. Keefe, Elisha Freeman, Russell O. Philpot, John D. Rowlan, Andrew Downie, Charles T. Palmer and Legrand S. Wright.

The first officers elected were John E. Shipman, P. C.; Charles E. Clifford, V. C.; John H. Adair, C. C.; Sidney B. North, V. C.; Frank C. Webb, P.; John L. Luers, K. R. S.; Edward Downie, M. F.; Geo. E. Forsyth, M. E.; James A. Harries, M. A.

The present officers are O. E. Williamson, P. C.; Louis Watawa, V. C.; A. G. Scholl, prelate; H. Kahn, M. of W.; C. J. Gough, K. R. S.; G. J. Schafer, M. F.; H. D. Tompkins, M. of E.; Hugo Theimer, M. A.; H. S. Dartt, I. G.; E. A. Brown, O. G. The trustees are G. F. Cardoff, A. Butsch and G. W. Doolittle. The present membership is 119.

The Pythian Knighthood had its conception in the exemplification of the life test of true friendship existing between Damon and Pythias. Friendship or mutual confidence, being the strongest bond of union between man and man, and only existing where honor has an abiding place, is adopted as a foundation principle. And the ideal Knight of olden times was the personification of all the higher and nobler attributes of man's nature, the candidate for knighthood had to prove himself worthy of acceptance by those who valued friendship, bravery, honor, justice and loyalty. The order of the Knights of Pythias—founded on Friendship, Charity and Benevolence, which it proclaims as its cardinal principles—strives to gather into one mighty fraternity worthy men who appreciate the true meaning of friendship; who are cautious in word and act; who love truth; who are brave in defending right; whose honor is untarnished; whose sense of justice will prevent, to the best of their ability, a personal act or word injurious to the worthy, whose loyalty to principle, to family, to friends, to their country, and to the constituted authority under which they enjoy citizenship is undoubted, and who, at all times, are prepared to do unto others as they would that others should do unto them.

Owatonna Lodge, No. 50, has since its institution been composed of the younger business and professional men of the city and representative men from the surrounding country and its course has always been marked by social and benevolent enterprises. This order has always exerted a strong influence among its members for the "elevation and betterment of mankind." The social activities of this lodge have been largely increased and strengthened by the institution of its sister society, the Rath-

bone Sisters, now known as the Pythian Sisters, who have a flourishing temple in the rooms and castle hall of this lodge. Owatonna Lodge, No. 50, has a reserve fund of about \$800 and is in a flourishing and active condition, and has always been very aggressive since its institution in Owatonna.

**Hope Temple, No. 32, Pythian Sisters.** This temple was instituted by Olive J. Gilmore, grand chief, and Nellie A. McCall, grand senior warden, with a chapter membership of twenty-four ladies and nine knights. The first officers were Gertrude Carthoright, past chief; Mary McClintock, M. E. C.; Francis Kendall, Ex. S.; Gertie Mitchell, Ex. J.; Sarah Adsit, manager; Jennie Adsit, M. of R. & C.; Agnes Doolittle, M. of F.; Mary Cedardahl, protector; Eva Rowland, guard; Nellie Graham, Effie Adsit and Augusta Bell, trustees. Meetings are held in the Knights of Pythias Hall, on the first and third Tuesday evenings, at 7:30. The present officers are: Edith Deitz, S. P. C.; Lorinda Morehouse, M. E. C.; Ella Dartt, Ex. S.; Alfraetta Rolf, Ex. J.; Bertha Vanorum, manager; Pearl Hagan, M. of R. & C.; Suzie Zamboni, M. of F.; Eva Smith, protector; Guesena Schafer, guard.

### FRATERNAL INSURANCE

**The Ancient Order of United Workmen.** This order was founded at Meadville, Pa., on October 28, 1868, by John Jordon Upchurch. It is a fraternal society, having an insurance feature, and was the first organization of the kind in America. It has during its operation paid to the widows and orphans of deceased members \$170,000,000, \$9,000,000 of which was distributed in Minnesota, \$40,000 of that being placed in the city of Owatonna. Its present membership in Owatonna is 120, and in the state, 32,000. One of our citizens, Hon. James M. Diment, held the office of grand master of the state during the three years of 1899, 1900 and 1901. This being the oldest organization of the kind in the country having the insurance feature, and having witnessed the failure of a large number of fraternal societies of its kind, it would seem that its marvelous success as compared with the failures of others is owing fully to the manner of management and integrity of those intrusted to the management of the general financial affairs of the different organizations, and speaks well for such an organization when under proper management.

**Owatonna Aerie, No. 1791, F. O. E.** This lodge was instituted June 9, 1908, and now has a membership of 171 in good standing. The first officers were: Gus A. Cedardahl, P. W. P.; Charles Green, W. P.; E. H. Lippert, W. W. P.; C. A. Sweeny, W. C.; C. A. Hoffman, F. S.; J. W. Rowland, T.; F. Hoffman,

F. F. C.; F. Jorgenson, J. G.; John H. Martin, O. G.; Dr. Amos, Ole Williamson, L. C. Brown and F. M. Smersh, trustees. The present officers are: Gus A. Cedardahl, S. P. W. P.; E. H. Lippert, P. W. P.; Leroy Holmes, W. P.; William Peller, W. W. P.; James Sullivan, W. C.; R. W. Sander, F. S.; John Watawa, T.; F. Bassett, W. C.; John H. Martin, J. G.; Geo. Staley, O. G.; W. Amos, J. Jorgenson, L. C. Brown and F. M. Smersh, trustees.

The Fraternal Order of Eagles teaches a philosophy which is as eternal as is divine truth, and wherever its doctrine has been promulgated it has found a responsive echo in the hearts of men. It represents the true Democracy of Fraternalism. Its creed is simple, and in it there are no patricians nor plebeians. Each Eagle, wherever located, is the equal of every other. There is embraced within the circle of its fraternity humanity in all its phases, and no man in whose soul there is yet remaining one spark of manhood is denied its benign influence. The Eagles recognize that in every man there is some good, and seek to develop that good until it shall bear good fruit in the betterment and uplifting of mankind in general.

Classes, so destructive to ancient nations, are not recognized. Ancient precedents concerning man's superior over man are swept away before the flood tide of equal rights and opportunities afforded to all. Vocation, business, profession, calling, social, religious or political standing do not enter or weigh concerning a man's standing as an Eagle, and no aristocracy is recognized save that of enthusiasm in the noble and mighty cause.

**Owatonna Council, No. 1646, Royal Arcanum**, was organized August 28, 1895, with twenty-seven members. The Royal Arcanum is a fraternal association aiming to give life insurance at a cost as near that of "normal mortality as safety and permanency will permit." According to its reports, it stands among all fraternal societies to-day fourth in membership, third in amount of insurance in force, third in assets, second in yearly income, second in receipts since organization, second in disbursements to widows and orphans. Since its organization, June 23, 1877, it has distributed to beneficiaries \$129,000,000, to some 65,000 families. The present officers of the local council are as follows: Regent, J. H. Dinsmore; vice regent, Walter S. Dynes; orator, E. A. Brown; past regent, R. H. G. Netz; secretary, J. G. Briggs; collector, J. W. Rowland; treasurer, C. I. Buxton; chaplain, C. L. Pound; guide, F. L. La Bare; warden, G. A. Merrill; sentry, W. A. Sperry; trustee, W. E. McClintock.

**Boynton Tent, No. 49, Knights of Maccabees**. This tent was organized at Owatonna in 1897, with twelve members. It is a fraternal society, carrying insurance for the benefit of its

members. The order distributed over the states has \$9,000,000 in its benefit fund, which guarantees all certificates. The average paid out per day in benefits is about \$10,000. The officers of the local order are: William Burghs, commander; J. L. Ingraham, record keeper; F. J. Rions, finance keeper.

**C. S. P. S., Lodge No. 67, Bohemian Slavonik Benevolent Society of Minnesota**, was instituted at Owatonna by the authority of the grand lodge of Minnesota on January 15, 1881, and works under the auspices of the supreme lodge, which was instituted at St. Louis, Mo., in 1854. Its object is to encourage friendship, benevolence and charity. July 16, 1885, the local lodge was incorporated, with Joseph H. H. Soukup, president; Frank Kovar, secretary. In 1887 the society numbered thirty-one members, viz.: Joseph Kubat, Joseph Kaplan, Joseph H. Soukup, John Dusek, A. L. Simon, Frank Horak, John Pichner, Joseph Waverin, John Svir, Anton Pirkel, L. L. Marek, Anton Belina, Anton Kapser, Joseph Tamshe, K. C. Tamshe, John Slavik, Frank Ripka, V. Mares, Joseph Krejci, Felix Svekla, V. Pichner, V. Kovar, F. Simon, Frank Kovar, V. Suchnaek, V. Jirousek, Albert Kasper, John R. Soukup, V. Martinek, Joseph Martinek. The present officers are: A. R. Stransky, president; G. J. Kaplan, vice-president; Anton Stancel, secretary; Joseph Stancel, treasurer; escort, John Wavrin; watchman, Frank Kovar; trustees, John Pechner, Sr., Wenzel Kovar, Joseph Fisher.

The society has erected a fine block of elegant proportions on North Cedar street, known as the C. S. P. S. Auditorium, where the lodge has an elegant hall for its own use, and a commodious auditorium gallery in the upper stories, which is used for theatrical purposes and public entertainments. The enterprise exhibited by the society in the erection of this building loudly speaks in its praise.

**The Modern Woodmen of America.** The local lodge of this order was organized by D. H. Consul and G. F. Mills at Owatonna in August, 1887, and received its charter from the grand lodge at Fulton, Ill., August 31, 1887. The charter members were: O. E. Edson, V. C.; J. W. Rowland, clerk; D. B. Shaw and E. Smith, sentries; W. E. Morehouse, W. adviser; W. T. Thompson, escort; E. M. Morehouse, E. B. and Phy.; Henry Dipping and D. R. Grunkle, watchmen. The board of managers were: For one year, O. E. Edson; for two years, E. Smith, and for three years, H. Dipping.

Meetings are held on the first and third Fridays of each month.

From a beginning with twelve members the lodge has had a steady growth till at this date, at the age of twenty-three years, it numbers 328 members in good standing, and has nine social



members. The present officers are: James Wencil, V. C.; J. W. Rowland, E. B.; Thomas Darington, W. A.; M. J. Parcher, clerk; G. B. Stacey, escort; P. Daniger, watchman; D. M. Mitchell, sentry; H. Daxell, assistant clerk; examining surgeons, A. B. Stewart and J. W. Andrist. The purpose of the Modern Woodmen of America is not only of a fraternal and charitable nature, for the benefit of its more unfortunate members in times of distress, as a local organization, but it also insures its members, in good standing, against a loss to their families by certain standards of insurance, and is considered one of the most substantial fraternal orders in the country.

**Victory Camp, No. 1040, Royal Neighbors of America.** This is the ladies' adjunct to the Modern Woodmen of America, and its fraternal and insurance features are of the same character. It was organized June 8, 1898, with the following officers: Mrs. Maggie Woods, oracle; Mrs. Ella Wright, vice oracle; Mrs. Louise Thon, recorder; Mable Snyder, receiver; Mrs. Maria Snyder, chancellor; Mrs. Mary Marquart, inner sentinel, and A. B. Stewart, physician.

The present officers are: Mrs. Louise K. Thon, oracle; Mrs. Martha Thon, vice oracle; Mrs. Anna Davidson, recorder; Mrs. Mary Marquart, receiver; Mrs. A. M. Belina, chancellor; Mrs. Rose Anderson, inner sentinel; Mrs. Dora Dezell, outer sentinel, and A. B. Stewart, and Guel G. Morehouse, physicians. There is a membership of ninety, out of which there are forty-nine fraternal, and forty-one who are benefit members through the insurance feature.

**Grand Lodge of the Ancient Order of Aztecs.** This was first instituted at Minneapolis, August 24, 1891, and May 15, 1899, was transferred to the city of Owatonna for its permanent home. It elected and installed the following grand officers: M. F. Smersh, grand commander; A. J. Kubat, grand vice commander; J. Newsalt, secretary; Robert Denniger, treasurer; Lars Peterson and C. E. Srsen, trustees. The principal present officers are: F. M. Smersh, grand commander; S. A. Kubat, grand vice commander; F. A. Alexander, grand solicitor; F. M. Smersh, grand medical examiner.

**Tenoch Council, No. 16, Ancient Order of Aztecs.** This council was organized May 29, 1893. The present membership is 140 and is both a fraternal and charitable institution having an insurance feature which is proving very advantageous in times of sickness of its members and to the widows and orphans of deceased members. The present officers are: R. F. Anderson, commander; O. K. Marquart, vice commander; L. J. Walachka, secretary; S. A. Kubat, collector; Robert Dinniger,



treasurer; Cy Harding, orator; Chas. Cobb, chaplain; August Monthee, guide; Art Weise, warden; C. I. Sustak, sentry.

### CATHOLIC ORDERS

**Owatonna Council, No. 945, Knights of Columbus.** This council was instituted at Owatonna, December 11, 1904, with J. F. Fitzgerald, grand knight; John Lynard, deputy grand knight; L. J. Mosher, secretary; J. S. Brick, financial secretary; and B. J. Meixner, treasurer. The council started out with a fine lot of Owatonna's best business men as its charter members, and has since added to its membership till at the present time it has enrolled in good standing 115 members, which speaks well for the popularity of the organization, the object of which is not only fraternal in character, but through its insurance feature to render mutual assistance in times of need to the families of members. It is an incorporated council and capable of purchasing or disposing of realty or personal property. The present officers are: John Lynard, grand knight; J. S. Brick, deputy grand knight; B. J. Meixner, treasurer; T. J. Stransky, secretary, and W. H. Liebe, financial secretary. The trustees are J. F. Fitzgerald, George C. Tower and W. H. Hart.

**Catholic Order of Foresters.** The local lodge of this order was organized at Owatonna, May 7, 1897. It is a fraternal order having the usual insurance feature. As is the case of Knights of Columbus, none but Catholics are admitted to membership, the fraternity being dedicated to the benefit of its large and growing membership and their families, its relief proving to be a great advantage to the families of departed members of the order through the immediate aid received just at a time when most needed. The present membership of the local lodge is 121 and the present officers are: George Tohr, C. R.; Martin Kubiatiowicz, V. C. R.; C. F. Ringhoffer, P. C. R.; F. J. Wencel, recorder; John Hogan, financial secretary; Edward W. Springer, treasurer; N. J. Bateshek, S. C.; C. M. Lerach, I. C.; John O. Shaney, I. S.; Jos. C. Ripka, N. S.; John Lynard, H. C. R., and F. A. Dunham, speaker. Trustees, William Burzinski, F. Schleman, S. Kubiatiowicz.

**Division No. 1, Steele County, Ancient Order of Hibernians.** This order was organized at Owatonna, February 26, 1891, with the following charter members: George C. Tower, J. E. McLane, Edward J. McGrath, William Hickey, John Deviny, Chas. A. Lonergan, James E. Quinn and C. J. Obrine, formerly a member of the Montgomery division. The first officers were: C. J. Obrine, president; Edward McGrath, vice president; Mike McGrath, treasurer, and J. E. Malone, recording secretary. There

are now forty-six members in full and regular membership. It is a fraternal order having the insurance feature. The present officers are: W. H. Liebe, president; Ed. F. Laughlin, vice president; John Hogan, treasurer, and J. E. Malone, recording, financial and insurance secretary.

### WOMEN'S CLUBS

**The Ladies' Pioneer Outing Club.** This club was organized in October, 1893, by the following ladies: Mrs. Norman Evans, Mrs. W. S. Boice, Mrs. E. E. Bigelow, Mrs. J. N. Niles, Mrs. T. H. Kelley, Mrs. Frank Murray, Mrs. H. K. Tompkins, Mrs. A. E. Southworth, Mrs. Frank Ellis. The club was formerly limited to nine members, but more recently its membership has been increased. A full or unanimous vote of the members is required before a candidate recommended by a member can become a member of the club. In this manner the club is replenished after the death or the removal of one of its members from the city. It was named the Pioneer Outing Club, because it was the first club of the kind instituted at Owatonna for the purpose of visiting nature's beauty spots, through excursions into the country and to pleasure resorts, for the purpose of recreation and nature study during the milder months of the year. During the cold and inclement weather, social meetings are held, alternating at the different homes of the members. The club is devoted mostly to social amusement and healthful recreation; the only thing of a literary nature connected with it is its monthly program. Unlike the more recently organized women's literary clubs, this regular monthly program is carried out in a manner so that the responses are made extemporaneously, the individuals replying not having had an opportunity to make a study of the parts to be assumed. The opening ceremonies are preceded by the club's repeating in concert the adopted creed of the club, viz.: "We believe in woman as God's best creation—nothing nobler can be found; that none of us are angels, yet many saints still tread earth's round; that all labor is honorable, in kitchen, shop or field; that recreation is commendable, to nature's wooing we should yield; that hearts never grow old, that golden hair is honorable as silver and silver glorious as gold. We believe wherever duty calls that call is ours; that all about us bloom life's flowers for us to gather and with others share. We believe in honest sentiment and dare admit our humanest affection for all created things, from the worm beneath our feet to the bird above that sings in divinest melody; and finally, we do believe that when for us kind nature drops the curtain, with a tear, and our last outing shall be, with ebbing

tide, out o'er the sea of eternity—then that new life will be enlarged, enriched and glorified by sacred memories of this circle here." The present members are Mrs. Norman Evans, Mrs. W. S. Boice, Mrs. E. E. Bigelow, Mrs. T. H. Kelley, Mrs. H. K. Tompkins, Mrs. J. N. Niles, Mrs. George Holden, Mrs. William Kelley, Mrs. Fred. Church, Mrs. M. B. Price, Mrs. W. F. St. Clair, Mrs. C. E. Cole, Mrs. John Adsit, and Mrs. E. K. Whiting.

**The Cosmopolitan Literary Club** is the oldest literary club in the city of Owatonna, having been organized in the fall of 1895, before the woman's club movement had become popular, and before it was at all certain that a regularly organized literary club would prove a success. This club was the outgrowth of a Chautauqua circle which had existed several years. Mrs. Norman Evans, of Owatonna, has the honor and credit of originating the club in its present form. The membership of the club is limited to thirty, and at no time during its life of fourteen years has it had less than that number, nor has its interest in advanced work failed in the least to keep abreast with the times. This club enjoys the unique distinction of having one member who has, during the club's existence, missed but one meeting, and that absence was caused by illness.

The average attendance during this time has been twenty-two, which shows the deep interest of its members in the work constantly in hand.

Possibly this devotion may in part be due to the fact that instead of the members being wholly interested in personal improvement, they are, both as an individual club and as a part of the State Federation of Woman's Clubs, engaged in promoting many movements for the betterment of social conditions and the advancement of every worthy human interest.

The Cosmopolitan club joined the state federation in 1896, holding to the old adage that "in union there is strength," and that by such union a more extensive influence could be brought to bear for the advancement of educational movements along the line of household economics, health and hygiene, child labor, pure food laws, forestry, art, music, library work and all that occupies the attention of the state and national organizations of woman's clubs.

During the early years of the club's existence the history, literature and art of the different countries composed the line of study, three years having been given to the study of America. The past five years have been devoted to the consideration of "Present Day Problems." Through the discussion of these topics an interest has been awakened, not only in this club, but also in other federated clubs in this city, impelling them through the

close relationship they bear toward one another to combine for the general improvement and advancement of the home community, among which may be mentioned the furnishing of the children's room in the public library, a liberal contribution to the kindergarten department of the city schools, and furnishing lectures, concerts, etc., for the especial benefit of the young people of the town.

The first officers of the club were: President, Mrs. Norman Evans; first vice president, Mrs. C. S. Crandall; second vice president, Mrs. L. L. Bennett; recording secretary, Mrs. P. L. Howe; corresponding secretary, Mrs. R. G. Nelson.

The present officers are: President, Mrs. A. H. Muedeking; first vice president, Mrs. L. G. Nelson; second vice president, Mrs. J. G. Briggs; recording secretary, Mrs. Geo. Parrott; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Soren Nilson; federation secretary, Mrs. Norman Evans; treasurer, Mrs. L. L. Bennett.

The Cosmopolitan club has been honorably represented by one of its members in an official capacity, both in the state and district organizations, and of one as delegate and alternate at various meetings of the national organization. Another member was a very worthy and efficient member of the school board for several years.

**The Nineteenth Century Club.** Through the influence of Mrs. N. J. Eddy, an invitation was extended to all who would be likely to be interested in such a club to meet at the home of Mrs. A. J. Katz, April 5, 1898, at which time the club was instituted, received its name, and the following officers elected: President, Mrs. J. H. Candler; vice president, Mrs. Nichols; recording secretary, Mrs. R. H. Bach; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Chas. Travis; treasurer, Mrs. Chas. Allen. This club became a member of the Federated Clubs, September 27, 1898, since which time its members have been actively interested in both local and state work, and honored by the state and district organizations; Mrs. Chas. B. Allen has been district secretary for several years, and in conjunction with other federated clubs this club has liberally rendered financial as well as personal encouragement to the city library and the children's room connected therewith. Much of the success of this club is due to the able support it has received through its leading members, who have determined to keep it abreast of the times for the uplifting of woman-kind, while at the same time attending to the constant developmental improvement of its local membership through the studies of home economics, American and European history, travel and literary pursuits; not forgetting or neglecting to introduce social features in connection with the regular programs. The membership is limited to twenty-six, which is kept full by election as



soon as a vacancy occurs, so that the club has always had its maximum in size. The present officers are: Mrs. E. J. Eddy, president; Mrs. E. J. Owen, vice president; Mrs. Guy Clefton, recording secretary; Mrs. J. F. Rogers, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Chas. Travis, federated secretary; and Mrs. Edwin Naylor, treasurer.

**The F. F. Club.** This club was organized in June, 1900. Though not a federated club, its object is similar to those which are, and the members pursue regular courses of study along the lines of literary and economic subjects. Its mottos are, "A little learning is a dangerous thing," and "Drink deep or touch not the Pierian spring." The club color is garnet and its flower is the white carnation. The present officers are: Mrs. O. D. Selleck, president; Mrs. S. Bell, vice president; Mrs. T. Rions, secretary and treasurer.

**The Ideal Club.** This club was organized in 1900, and federated in 1902. Its purposes are similar to the clubs previously mentioned. The membership is limited to twenty, which is constantly kept at full complement, the members being deeply interested in the pursuit of the study of the various topics brought before them for consideration and the advancement of a practical knowledge of history, literature, and domestic and political economics. The first officers of the club were: Mrs. H. K. Tompkins, president; Mrs. S. S. Thompson, secretary; Mrs. John Smith, treasurer. The present officers of the club are: President, Mrs. Walter Dynes; corresponding secretary, Mrs. W. F. Chambers; recording secretary, Mrs. E. J. Thompson; federated secretary, Mrs. J. B. Christgau; treasurer, Mrs. L. R. Van Ornam.

**The Delta Sigma Club.** This is another club that is exerting itself to improve the standing of woman through the study of the history of all nations and the contemplation of the world's literary and economic pursuits. This club was organized under the leadership of Mrs. George Schultze, September, 1901, and became a member of the federated clubs in February, 1902. The present officers are: Miss Cahill, president; Mrs. Michael Cashman, leader; recording secretary, Cynthia Meixner; corresponding secretary and federation secretary, Mrs. Mike Cashman. Membership is limited to fifteen, and at all times reaches that number.

**The Emanon Club.** This club was organized September, 1903, and federated during the same year. Its membership is limited to twenty. Though this is the youngest of the local federated clubs, it is by no means the less active in carrying along its portion of the good works laid out by both the local federation and State Federation of Women's Clubs, and is cast-



ing its lot with the general movement of women's clubs for advancement of the sphere of American womanhood. The first officers were: Mrs. G. H. Hoffman, president; Mrs. Ellen Mid-  
daugh, vice president; Mrs. W. F. St. Clair, recording secretary; Mrs. John Kendall, corresponding and federation secretary; Mrs. James Andrews, treasurer. The present officers are: Mrs. Eunice Turner, president; Mrs. C. W. Adsit, vice president; Mrs. Emil Zamboni, corresponding secretary and federation secretary; Miss Harriet Howe, recording secretary; Mrs. W. B. Adsit, treasurer.

**The Twentieth Century Club.** This club was promulgated and instituted by that noble and venerated pioneer lady, Mrs. Emily Winship, who during her life was at all times interested in the consideration and study of topics that might advance thought along the lines of literary culture and social and domestic economics, thus making her idealistic sentiments a quite noteworthy feature in the attraction her associates felt toward her. Later, when the women's club work movement was inaugurated in Owatonna, Mrs. Winship was with the progressive movement in spirit, but owing to advanced age and debility caused by prolonged illness, she was unable to more than give a hearty endorsement to the project.

The Twentieth Century Club had its first inception when Mrs. Winship, though confined to her home, invited a few of her neighbors to meet with her periodically, and thus informally pass a pleasant hour reading together. This little reading circle soon became so popular that new faces began to augment the number at the hospitable fireside, to such an extent that in September, 1900, it was decided to form the company into a literary organization and call it "The Twentieth Century Club," Mrs. Winship being made its first president. The club was limited to twenty members and was to hold its meetings every two weeks. Through the passing away of the founder of the club, the members have felt the loss of her guiding influence and have greatly missed her ever cheerful personality at their meetings. Although the club is not federated, the members have kept their deep interest in local work, their study pursuits being along lines similar to those of the other literary clubs of the city. The present officers are: Mary E. Dunham, president; Mrs. J. F. Young, vice president; Mrs. W. H. Montgomery, secretary.

## OTHER CLUBS

**Iroquois Club.** Although organized less than two years, the Iroquois Club is the foremost young men's organization of Owa-

tonna, and has attractive and well furnished rooms in the second story of the First National Bank Building. The club was organized in April, 1909, with a membership of thirty-five. A limit of forty was placed upon the membership, and this has since been steadily maintained. In addition to this, a number of names are enrolled upon the non-resident list. In the club rooms ten of the latest periodicals and magazines are always kept, and in the music room a piano and other musical instruments serve to provide a splendid equipment for those musically inclined. The officers of the club are: Floyd Bell, president; Elliott Shea, vice president; S. C. Goff, Jr., secretary; Homer Rugg, treasurer. In addition to this, a board of governors is composed of the following: James Cashman, Lewis Winship, Robert Nelson, Arthur Lippert and Hugo Theimer. The club is purely social and has become a leading social body in many respects. Many of the high class dances are given under its auspices and the club at stated intervals holds "get-together" banquets, which serve to bring the members into closer and more fraternal relationship with one another.

**The Owatonna Commercial Club**, which was organized in April, 1905, is the successor of several civic organizations of earlier days. The club, which has recently absorbed the Iroquois Club, occupies comfortable quarters on Cedar street, over Mork's store, having moved to the present rooms from the Opera House block in 1908. The first officers of the club were: President, Herbert Vinton; vice president, John Brick; secretary, H. A. Lawson; treasurer, Harry Luce; directors, F. A. Dunham, George Schafer, O. E. Williamson, Dr. G. G. Morehouse, Alfred Schmidt, Charles J. Servatius and E. A. Brown. The present officers are: President, C. A. Tincher; vice president, S. C. Goff; secretary, C. J. Servatius; treasurer, A. H. Schmidt; directors, E. A. Brown, Roy Parrott, Louis Watowa, William Darby and R. H. Gericke.

**The Owatonna Business Men's Club** has for its object the upbuilding of the commercial interests of the city. It was organized in February, 1910, and holds monthly banquets at which various topics of public interest are discussed. The officers are: President, M. S. Alexander; vice president, W. F. St. Clair; treasurer, P. H. Evans; secretary, F. A. Dunham; trustees, M. B. Price, M. R. Cashman, J. F. Fitzgerald, J. C. Jahreiss and G. G. Morehouse.

**Steele County Agricultural Street Fair Association.** This association, which was originally fostered by the Owatonna Commercial Club, was organized May 19, 1906, with the following officers: President, Robert Crickmore; first vice president,

J. R. Morley; second vice president, J. H. Laughlin; treasurer, H. H. Luce; secretary, F. A. Dunham; trustees, W. F. St. Clair, F. H. Joesting, G. F. Cardoff and George E. Darby. The association has held a fair each year in Owatonna, with the usual attractions and exhibits, having done much to promote the agricultural and business interests of the county. The present officers are: President, J. R. Morley; first vice president, J. H. Laughlin; second vice president, C. P. Sahler; treasurer, M. J. Brown; secretary, F. A. Dunham; trustees, M. R. Cashman, W. F. St. Clair, W. H. Kilty, F. H. Joesting and G. A. Cedardahl.

## CHAPTER XXII.

### PILLSBURY ACADEMY.

**Location and Importance—Its Existence as the Minnesota Academy—Gifts of George A. Pillsbury—Buildings—Object—Societies—Officers—Biographies.**

Pillsbury Academy ranks well with the preparatory schools of this part of the country, and furnishes an important feature of Owatonna life. The site of the academy is in the southeastern part of the city, on a gentle elevation, commanding a fine view of the city and surrounding country. The grounds, well shaded with noble trees, include ten acres, the natural beauty of which is enhanced by smooth shaven lawns and graceful curving walks and driveways. A finely graded campus of several acres adjacent to the buildings furnishes opportunity for out-of-door sports.

Pillsbury Academy was founded by the Minnesota Baptist State Convention, and opened its doors for the reception of students in September, 1877, under the name of Minnesota Academy. In 1885, George A. Pillsbury began to take a vital interest in the institution and made to it the first of a series of liberal gifts. In recognition of Mr. Pillsbury's generosity and as a token of esteem to him the name of the institution was changed to Pillsbury Academy by a unanimous vote of the Baptist State Convention in October, 1886. From 1885 to 1892 Mr. Pillsbury gave to the school, one after another, Pillsbury hall, the Academy building, Music hall, the Drill hall and the Central heating plant. Besides clearing the school of its debts on account of current expenses several times, Mr. Pillsbury bequeathed to it a generous fund by the terms of his will. This fund can be used as an endowment only. These facts indicate that it is eminently proper that the institution should bear the name of its chief benefactor. In 1900 Wm. H. Kelly, of Owatonna, by a generous offer, started the movement for a boys' dormitory. Other liberal friends throughout the state aided the movement, and in 1904 the new building was completed and ready for occupancy. By unanimous vote of the Baptist State Convention in October, 1905, this building was named Kelly hall, in honor of Mr. Kelly. The heating plant has recently been enlarged, and a Corliss engine and dynamo installed. At the present time, Pillsbury Academy

has seven finely equipped buildings, which so far as the purpose for which they are designed is concerned, will bear comparison with buildings of any similar institution in the Northwest.

The object of the school is to furnish the very best of secondary education under academic conditions, and to meet fully the demands of young people who have a clear educational purpose in going away to school. Scholastically the school aims to maintain a maximum preparatory course of study which will fit its graduates to enter the freshman class of any American college or scientific school, and to afford facilities for the study of music, art and elocution under teachers of the best training and experience. The scholastic object is not allowed to overshadow a purpose to develop sound moral character as a basis for future usefulness. That these objects may be realized, only such teachers are employed as have had the most generous training and will exert a positive Christian influence and so are themselves an expression of the high educational and moral ideas they seek to inculcate.

The buildings of Pillsbury Academy, seven in number, are, with one exception, comparatively new. They are commodious, in good condition, well equipped for their special purposes, and no expense has been spared to make them perfect from a sanitary standpoint.

The Academy building was erected in 1889, and is the gift of the late Hon. George A. Pillsbury, whose name the academy bears. It is one hundred and twenty-two feet long, and three stories high above the basement, with a tower one hundred and forty-four feet high. It contains recitation rooms, reference library and reading-room, offices, laboratories, manual training shop, study-room, chapel, and a spacious auditorium, seating about five hundred people.

Pillsbury hall, the girls' dormitory, also a gift of Mr. Pillsbury, was built in 1886. It is one hundred and twenty-eight feet long, and has three stories above the basement. It is heated by hot water and lighted by electricity, and contains parlors, conveniently arranged suites of rooms, lavatories, assembly room, and dining hall.

The Music hall is a two-story brick structure, forty by eighty feet. It was likewise built by Mr. Pillsbury in 1892. The architecture is Grecian, and the classic beauty of the facade, with its four massive Ionic columns, adds much to the beauty of the campus. The building contains a fire-proof library room, and ample accommodations for the music departments, teaching rooms, practice rooms, and hall for private recitals.

Kelly hall, the boys' dormitory, has been occupied but six years. It is a brick structure, one hundred and sixty feet long,



forty feet wide, and has three stories and dormer above the basement. It is equipped with all modern conveniences and improvements, having, in addition to the living rooms, a large reception room, a commodious hospital, and a large locker-room, with shower and tub baths adjacent. All rooms are supplied with steam heat and electric light. It affords accommodations for eighty boys, besides suites of rooms for four teachers.

The combined gymnasium and drill hall has a clear floor space of one hundred and ten by sixty-five feet. It has just been refitted at considerable expense and supplied with light and heat from the central plant. It affords the best of facilities for indoor recreation, such as basket ball, baseball and roller skating.

A central heating and lighting plant furnishes heat and electric light to all the buildings. The plant has recently been enlarged, the entire system changed to the vacuum system, an extra boiler added, and a fire engine and dynamo installed.

The old Academy building, erected in 1876, is used as a drill hall and recreation building for the girls.

The students maintain active branches of Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Associations. These organizations aid greatly in preserving a high moral and religious standard in the school life and furnish a rallying point for those who wish to do active Christian work. Two active literary societies, the Corvus Club and the Philomathian Society, are maintained by the boys of the academy. These give the best of opportunity for practice in debating, essay writing and parliamentary usage. The girls maintain the Qui Vive Literary Society. These organizations hold meetings bi-weekly on Friday evenings. A monthly paper, the "Alphian," is published by the students of the academy and offers opportunity for any member of the school to bring into print such compositions as are thought worthy of publication. The school paper is under the supervision of the instructor in English. A school orchestra, under the direction of a member of the faculty, affords opportunity for regular practice in the use of a large number of musical instruments. The orchestra is frequently called upon to furnish music at school entertainments. The Athletic Association includes all of the students and teachers of the academy. Through its officers and board of control it takes charge of all the athletic interests of the school.

The board of trustees of the school consists of the following gentlemen: Edward M. Van Duzee, president; B. B. Townsend, secretary; Hon. W. R. Kinyon, treasurer. Term expires in 1910: L. S. Gillette, Minneapolis; E. M. Van Duzee, St. Paul; G. M. Palmer, Mankato; S. S. Green, Owatonna; D. D. Smith, St. Paul; C. W. Sawyer, Minneapolis. Term expires in 1911:

Rev. L. A. Crandall, D. D., Minneapolis; W. C. Roberts, M. D., Owatonna; Hon. W. R. Kinyon, Owatonna; A. F. Gale, Minneapolis; B. B. Townsend, Minneapolis; E. J. Longyear, Minneapolis. Term expires in 1912: Uriah Roraback, Minneapolis; Frank C. Nickels, Minneapolis; S. C. Briggs, West Concord; L. C. Woodman, Owatonna; Chas. Jeffs, Owatonna; Frank K. Pratt, Minneapolis.

The principal of the school is Milo B. Price, Ph. D., of whose scholastic attainments the school catalogue gives the following resume: A. B., Denison University, 1892. Post-graduate work, University of Chicago, 1892-1893. Student of history and philology, University of Leipzig, 1893-1896. Ph. D., Leipzig, 1896. Instructor, modern languages, St. Mark's School, Southboro, Mass., 1896-1897. Instructor, modern languages, The Worcester Academy, Worcester, Mass., 1897-1898. Master in history, Worcester Academy, 1898-1901. Master in history, William Penn Charter School, Philadelphia, Pa., 1901-1904. Principal, Pillsbury Academy, 1904.

Joshua L. Ingraham, A. M., has been a most important factor in the life of the school. He has been connected with the following institutions of learning: A. B. Colby College, 1880. A. M., Colby, 1883. Instructor in mathematics, The Worcester Academy, Worcester, Mass., 1880-1882. Principal, Pillsbury Academy, 1883-1889. Instructor in mathematics, Pillsbury Academy, 1889-1895. Special study, University of Chicago, summer, 1896. Instructor in Greek and Latin, Pillsbury Academy, 1895.

## CHAPTER XXIII

### ELLENDALE VILLAGE

**Location and Advantages—Origin—Business and Government—  
Fire Department—Cornet Band—Churches—Fraternal So-  
cieties—Creamery—Elevators—Schools—Beaver Lake.—By  
C. C. Campbell.**

Ellendale is situated in the southern part of Steele county on the Rock Island Railway, about midway between Owatonna, the county seat, and Albert Lea, in Freeborn county, being sixteen miles from the former and fifteen and one-half from the latter. The village is steadily growing in size and at present contains a population of about 400. The surrounding country is one of the most beautiful and productive agricultural regions in the world. It is gently rolling in contour and was originally covered with a dense growth of timber, principally oak. Most of this has long since been cleared away, leaving an occasional grove or small forest which dot the landscape in every direction. These, as seen from the eminence on which Ellendale is located, together with the varicolored fields of grain and an occasional glimpse of the gables and windmill spires of prosperous farmsteads, in the summer season form a scene of beauty to delight the eye of the artist and a picture of wealth and plenty which immediately arrests and holds the attention of the practical man of affairs. Ellendale is located on high ground, giving excellent opportunity for drainage. It has a very complete system of waterworks and an adequate system of sewerage will be an improvement of the near future. The water supply is obtained from deep wells which penetrate bedrock and furnish an abundant and pure supply, free from all danger of contamination.

The village boasts of a handsome and commodious brick school building erected during the summer of 1910 at a cost of of \$12,000. It maintains four church organizations. Among the business houses are three general stores, one clothing and shoe store, drug store, furniture store and undertaking establishment, novelty store, bank, two hotels, restaurant, two barber shops, harness shop, millinery store, meat market, two lumber yards, three livery stables, two blacksmith and machine shops, two grain elevators and a creamery, the latter one of the largest in

the state. A weekly paper, *The Ellendale Eagle*, is published.

A meeting of the officials of the B., C. R. & N. Ry. Co., which was pushing its way north with Minneapolis as the objective point, was held at Cedar Rapids, Ia., in August, 1900, to consider the location of stations on the thirty-two miles of line between Albert Lea and Owatonna, Minn. The problem presented many features for difference of opinion. Present at this meeting were C. J. Ives, president; Robert Williams, vice president and general manager; H. F. White, chief engineer; T. H. Simmons, general freight agent; Thos. H. Brown, right-of-way and townsite agent, and a few subordinate officers.

Some favored two and some favored three towns as being necessary to properly take care of the business on this thirty-two miles of road. President Ives said, "Let us have one good town with territory sufficient to build up a commercial center where farmers may not only sell their products, but find stores with large, up-to-date stocks of goods; then the farmer will take pride in his town and the benefit will become mutual." The meeting adjourned without definite orders, but directed the townsite agent, Mr. Brown, to use his judgment in locations on the line. On August 13, 1900, Mr. Brown met Hon. Geo. E. Sloan and Mr. O. H. Opsahl, who resided near the proposed location. The honest, frank and able manner in which Mr. Sloan presented the advantages of the location quite convinced him, so Ellendale was located and platted and, as intended, has become an important marketing and distributing center.

The name was given in memory of Mrs. C. J. Ives, who died a few years previous to this time. She was the laboring man's friend. She seemed to know every section man and every brakeman on the road and her many acts of tender, thoughtful kindness endeared her to the hundreds of employes. Her maiden name was Ellen Dale, so this beautiful, prosperous village will perpetuate the memory of that good woman.

Through Mr. Brown the railroad townsite company purchased a quarter section of land of the estate of Elling Ellingson. The townsite was laid out as quickly as possible, and R. J. Dobell, a resident of Iowa, was employed to take charge as local agent and also to organize a bank composed of local investors and a number of Cedar Rapids capitalists, some of whom were officers of the railway and townsite companies. Mr. Dobell commenced operations with characteristic energy and by fall had the bank organized and doing business. A small building 16x18 in size was purchased in the country and moved to the rear of the bank lot. Here the bank commenced business and here also the books of the townsite company were first opened. In the meantime the present building was being erected on the front



end of the lot and as soon as completed the cramped quarters in the little building were gladly exchanged for the more commodious ones which it afforded.

The new bank building was not only the first substantial building in the town; it was the center of activity thereafter, the *alma mater* of the community. Within its walls many business enterprises were nourished from weakness to self-reliant strength. When there was a dearth of buildings in the new town, its doors were open and there was always room for one more beneath its roof. Thus it housed many homeless ventures until more suitable quarters could be found and on occasion even served as a sleeping apartment for those who otherwise would have been doomed to a night out.

In the spring of 1901, before the frost was out of the ground, building operations commenced in earnest. About the first structures to be erected were Frank Randall's livery barn, Thomas & Grow's hardware store, now owned by Jensen & Miller, and A. M. Lerberg's general store. Other buildings followed in quick succession and by fall what the year before was only a stubble field, had been transformed into the business street of a good sized village. Since then the growth of the village has been slow, but continuous, each year seeing some new business enterprise added and new dwelling erected.

The present business houses are: E. M. Thompson, furniture and undertaking; W. B. Wardwell, druggist; Ober Mercantile Co., general merchandise; Jensen & Miller, hardware dealers and machinists; C. M. Nelson, novelty store; Security State Bank; A. M. Lerberg, general merchandise; E. H. Stout, hotel; Western Elevator Co., dealers in grain and coal, Jas. E. Lageson, manager; Laird Norton Yards, lumber and coal, Lars Hetland, manager; Farmers' Elevator Co., grain and feed, Geo. Stearns, manager; Ellendale Lumber Co., lumber and coal, Andrew Gregerson, manager; Rasmus Laursen, blacksmith; C. A. Odell, hotel; O'Malley & Carroll, saloon; Ellendale Mercantile Co., general merchandise, John Lageson, Albert Lageson, A. A. Berg, props.; Stearns & Lageson, hardware; Martin Anderson, meat market; N. C. Nelson, saloon; Henry Ellingson, barber shop; Ellingson Bros., clothing and shoes; Emma Ellingson & Co., restaurant; Lena D. Nelson, milliner; E. H. Gulbrandson, hardware; McFarland & Finch, livery barn; Ellis & Lundahl, blacksmiths; W. G. Bragg, livery; Jas. Larson, livery; Ellingson Bros., harness shop.

J. W. Andrist was the first physician, locating in Ellendale in 1901 with the first influx of settlers. In a few years he built up a large practice which he sold in October, 1908, to Dr. E. Q. Ertel, who has since covered the field. There is no mean tribute



to the sanitary conditions in the village as well as the climate of this part of Minnesota in the fact that this large territory has been covered in a satisfactory manner by one physician during the nine years intervening between the establishment of Ellendale and the writing of this sketch. Since leaving here Dr. Andrist has established a practice at Owatonna.

**The postoffice** was moved from Cooleyville, a small cross-roads village, which has been built up around the then Berlin & Summit, now Ellendale creamery. This hamlet was about a half mile east of Ellendale and with the establishment of the new town its business houses removed to the more attractive location. H. A. Midje was the postmaster, having his office in the general store of Midje & Lageson, of which he was the senior member. This firm erected a fine brick structure in Ellendale and transferred their business there, and in May, 1901, the government authorized the removal of the postoffice, and it was re-established at Ellendale. The office was a registration office while located in Cooleyville, but it was not until October, 1901, some time after its removal to Ellendale, that it was designated as a money order office and the first money order was written October 12, 1901. Mr. Midje occupied the office of postmaster until the summer of 1909, when he resigned and C. C. Campbell, the present incumbent, received the appointment, assuming the duties of his office August 8.

The village of Ellendale was incorporated in 1901, by authority of an election held on August 15, at which forty-five votes were cast, forty-two being in favor of incorporation and three in the negative. The first election of village officers was held August 27 following, which resulted in the election of D. J. Sullivan, mayor; J. F. Hake, Frank Kycek, John Ellingson, councilmen; E. M. Thompson, recorder; R. J. Dobell, treasurer; J. C. Hemingway and B. S. Ellis, justices of the peace; F. R. Randall, constable; W. A. Gahagan, street commissioner.

On October 25 several farmers whose lands had been included in the corporate limits of the village started suit to annul the corporation, hoping in the case that re-incorporation should be necessary, to have their lands set out. The plaintiffs were Nels Thompson, Henry Norby, Morris Patterson, Edward Johnson, Nels Ohnstad and Elsie Brynstad. The case dragged along until the summer of 1903, when an understanding was arrived at and it was dropped. Since the incorporation of the village the office of mayor has been filled as follows: D. J. Sullivan, 1901-1902; R. J. Dobell, 1903; H. L. Dolge, 1904; C. C. Campbell, 1905-1906; D. J. Sullivan, 1907; J. W. Andrist, 1908; E. E. Ellingson, 1909-1910. The present officers are E. E. Ellingson, mayor; A. P. Hanson, E. Q. Ertel, Theo. Jensen, councilmen; C. R. Torger-

son, recorder; B. S. Ellis, treasurer; G. B. Stearns, justice of the peace; M. A. McFarland, Wm. Bragg, constables; Chris Walbom, street commissioner.

During the various administrations many improvements have been accomplished. Notable among these is the building of a system of good roads and streets, the establishment of a system of waterworks and the laying of cement walks, curbing and gutters. Miles of new roads have been built, involving the expenditure of thousands of dollars for grading and gravel. In the middle of May, 1903, the council made a contract with the National Construction Co., of South Bend, Ind., to install a system of waterworks, contingent on the successful issue of an election to be held on July 31 to authorize the bonding of the village for the payment of the same. The proposition carried in favor of bonding, by a large majority, the bonds were floated and the waterworks were in operation by the time cold weather set in. The system is very complete and satisfactory both as to fire protection and domestic use. Fire hydrants have been placed on all the principal corners and there is hardly a building in the village not within reach of at least one line of hose. The system is what is known as pneumatic, the storage tank being on the ground under cover of the pumping station and the water is forced through the mains by air pressure. It is entirely adequate for every need and economical in operation.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The Ellendale Fire Department was organized at a meeting held May 13, 1904, the first officers being L. F. Burnes, chairman; E. J. Quinn, chief; F. R. Randall, assistant chief; E. H. Stout, warden; Th. Christensen, secretary. The department is equipped with hose cart, hook and ladder and other necessary paraphernalia. Regular meetings are held and the efficiency of the company has several times been practically demonstrated. The present officers are: E. H. Stout, chairman; E. M. Thompson, chief; Albert Lageson, assistant chief; C. R. Langdon, warden; Erick Ellingson, secretary and treasurer.

#### ELLENDALÉ CORNET BAND.

The Ellendale Cornet Band was organized during the early days of the town and has continued with a number of changes of membership and organization to the present time. During the whole period it has been under the leadership of Mr. A. S. Larsen, an experienced cornet player and efficient instructor, to whose patient and painstaking work the success of the organization may be attributed. The present officers are A. S. Larson,

leader; C. C. Campbell, manager; C. M. Nelson, secretary; C. R. Torgerson, treasurer.

### CHURCHES.

**Norwegian Lutheran.**—The Berlin Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran congregation was organized in 1869. Some ten or twelve families having settled here a few years previously, joined the organization. The first officers cannot be stated, but a constitution was adopted and the Rev. E. Wulfsberg, of Freeborn, was called as pastor, accepted the call and held his introductory service March 9, 1870. Rev. Wulfsberg served the congregation until March 5, 1873, when the present pastor, O. A. Mellby, was installed, and has ever since served as such. A piece of land was soon bought for a cemetery and thereon a church building was erected in 1877, but on account of the poor circumstances of the members of the society, stood unfinished until 1886, when it was completed and dedicated by Rev. L. M. Biorn, of Zumbrota, June 30. By the cyclone of June 15, 1892, this church was entirely swept away and scattered over the surrounding prairie. It was a hard blow to the little congregation, but not despairing, at a meeting held July 11 the same year, it was unanimously resolved to commence the erection of a larger and better house of worship and immediately went to work, raised the necessary funds and let the contract for such a structure to Mr. Tolsrud, of Lake Mills, Iowa. The work was completed to the general satisfaction of the congregation, and the new church was solemnly dedicated by Rev. L. M. Biorn, July 15, 1893, with the assistance of several other pastors. Including a fine bell and pipe organ the building cost about \$5,000. Besides this, by the effort of some influential members, a large vacated school house has been recently bought and placed on a fine lot in the village of Ellendale to be used for parochial and Sunday school and other religious meetings, at a cost of some \$600. The congregation, very small at the beginning, has had a steady growth, until at present it has about 300 members. The present officers are: L. J. Brynestad, secretary; A. Muri, trustee and treasurer; N. Norby, Gilbert Thorson, trustees. The congregation has a flourishing women's society working for missionary and charitable purposes, and a young people's society with religious and literary program. The congregation is a member of The United Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.

**Methodist Episcopal.**—The first steps toward building a Methodist church at Ellendale were taken at Geneva, Minn., at a quarterly conference held at that place by Rev. Peter Clare, presiding elder, and Rev. W. I. Moore, pastor, June 18, 1901.

At this conference R. J. Dobell, Dr. J. W. Andrist, E. O. Jones and F. G. Sloan were appointed a committee to look up the prospects for a building at Ellendale. This committee met at Dr. Andrist's office in Ellendale, June 19, and in addition there were present I. W. Ferguson, Ira C. Sawyer, Rev. Peter Clare, P. E. and Rev. W. I. Moore, who were all actively interested in the project. It was decided to build a church to cost \$1,200 in case \$800 in pledges could be secured. A board of trustees was organized as follows: F. G. Sloan, chairman; J. W. Andrist, secretary; R. J. Dobell, treasurer; E. O. Jones, Ira C. Sawyer. A soliciting committee was started out, and, having met with a satisfactory degree of success, plans were procured and the contract let for a building which exceeded the first estimates by several hundred dollars, the ultimate price being about \$2,000. This building was finished in July, 1902, and dedicated on the thirteenth of that month by the Rev. John M. Driver, assisted by Elder Clare and Pastor Moore. Rev. Moore served as pastor of the church until October, 1902, when he was succeeded by Rev. Frank Seeds. After seven months' service Rev. Seeds resigned and his place was filled by Rev. S. W. Kemerer, who occupied the pulpit until October, 1904. The conference then sent Rev. G. W. Koser to the charge, which he held for two years, being followed by Rev. J. J. Lutz in October, 1906. After three years Rev. Lutz was assigned to another charge, but was taken ill at Geneva just after having packed his household goods and expired. The church is now in charge of Rev. I. W. Holman, who succeeded to the pastorate in the fall of 1909. In connection with the church is a strong and active Ladies' Aid Society which is the fountain head of its social life and the main factor in lending financial support. The society has virtually furnished the church, kept it in repair and contributes largely to the salary of the pastor.

**Baptist.**—The Baptist Society was organized in 1860, but was without a house of worship until 1895, when a substantial building was erected in Berlin township about two miles north of the present site of Ellendale. In the summer of 1901 this edifice was removed to Ellendale, Rev. C. V. Smith being the first pastor to occupy the pulpit after the re-location of the building. About two years later Rev. Smith resigned and was succeeded by Rev. N. E. Chapman, who served about one year and was then obliged to give up the pastorate on account of ill health. He was followed by Rev. Pettengill, who only occupied the pulpit four times when he was taken ill with pneumonia and died. Since that time the church has been without a regular pastor, the pulpit being supplied occasionally by ministers from surrounding towns. The society is free from debt, the church



building is kept in good repair, and it is expected that regular services will be resumed at some time in the near future. An auxiliary, the Baptist Ladies' Aid Society, is an active organization which is doing much to hold the society together and prepare it for future usefulness. The officers of the church are: F. D. Sheldon, clerk; L. D. Lundahl, treasurer; P. J. Johnson, J. C. Nelson, C. M. Nelson, N. C. Nelson, trustees; L. D. Lundahl, P. J. Johnson, deacons.

**Danish Lutheran.**—Rev. M. O. Block, pastor of the Danish Lutheran Church of Summit township, has his residence in Ellendale and holds services at stated intervals in the M. E. Church. The society has no regular organization in the village, but the nucleus thus formed will undoubtedly develop in the course of time into a strong and well organized church.

### FRATERNAL SOCIETIES.

**Modern Woodman.**—Ellendale Camp, No. 9,666, was organized in May, 1901, being the first institution of the kind in the village. At the first meeting E. M. Thompson was elected, V. C.; W. A. Gahagan, W. A.; R. J. Dobell, banker; Geo. W. Delany, clerk; D. J. Sullivan, escort; R. M. Curtis, watchman; C. A. Bingham, sentry; J. W. Andrist, physician; F. Kycek, J. F. Misgen, W. J. Erdman, managers. The lodge has always enjoyed a large membership, and has been very active in social life. The officers at present are: Theo. Jensen, V. C.; B. S. Ellis, W. A.; W. A. Gahagan, banker; E. M. Thompson, clerk; L. D. Lundahl, escort; M. A. McFarland, escort; Jas. C. Nelson, sentry; E. Q. Ertel, physician; C. R. Langdon, E. G. Johnson, C. C. Campbell, managers.

**Royal Neighbors.**—Fraternity Camp, No. 3,614, Royal Neighbors of America, was organized in January, 1904. The first officers were: Oracle, Mrs. Susie Davis; vice oracle, Mrs. Anna Thorndike; past oracle, Mrs. Lora Campbell; chancellor, Miss Mabel Sawyer; recorder, Mrs. Florence Ellis; receiver, Mrs. Maggie Lundahl; marshal, Miss Matie Gray; assistant marshal, Mrs. Minnie Robbins; inside sentinel, Mrs. Myrtle Christensen; outside sentinel, Miss Lena Bingham; managers, Gilbert Christensen, Mrs. Hannah Nelson, A. S. Robbins. After many vicissitudes the camp has grown to be one of the strongest civic organizations in the village and a large factor in its social activities. It is now officered as follows: Oracle, Mrs. Mina Thompson; vice oracle, Mrs. Fannie Stearns; past oracle, Mrs. Caroline Jensen; chancellor, Mrs. Lulu Randall; recorder, Mrs. Lora Campbell; receiver, Mrs. Maggie Lundahl; marshal, Miss Laura Caspersen; inside sentinel, Mrs. Margarite Langdon; outside



sentinel, Mrs. Olive Gahagan; managers, Mrs. Sena Hansen, E. M. Thompson, Mrs. Mary Rezab.

**Yeomen.**—The Brotherhood of American Yeomen organized a homestead on May 23, 1902, with the following officers: Foreman, A. N. Rhodes; master of ceremonies, M. J. Dunnigan; correspondent, J. N. Vesterby; master of accounts, J. B. Nolan; overseer, Ole Opsahl. The present officers are: Foreman, M. J. Dunnigan; overseer, John Wangen; master of ceremonies, Jas. H. Burnes; correspondent, W. E. Galloway; Lady Rowena, Mrs. Nellie Burnes; Lady Rebekah, Mrs. Lulu Randall.

**Danish Brotherhood.**—D. B. S. Lodge, No. 237, came into existence on March 23, 1906, with twenty-one charter members, and at the first meeting the following officers were elected: President H. J. Peterson; vice president, C. P. Larson; secretary, R. Laursen; treasurer, Theo. Jensen; trustees, C. F. Jensen, L. Johnson. The lodge has paid \$1,000 in insurance and \$53 in aid on different occasions. The following are the officers at the present time: President, H. J. Peterson; vice president, N. Johnson; secretary, Rasmus Laursen; treasurer, C. Christensen; trustees, V. E. Jensen, M. Spurr.

### THE ELLENDALE CREAMERY.

The Berlin and Summit—now Ellendale—Creamery Association was organized January 10, 1891. Previous to this time a number of meetings were held to try to organize, but without much success until Mr. Dana P. Sawyer undertook to get the farmers to sign an agreement to pledge a certain number of cows and become responsible for \$3,000 to enable the association to procure funds. The first officers elected were: D. P. Sawyer, president; Jas. Torgerson, vice president; F. G. Sloan, secretary; A. C. Tennis, treasurer; U. C. Jansen, N. O. Thompson, A. F. Davis, directors. These seven directors, on their own notes, borrowed the money necessary to build and equip the creamery. There was much opposition to the project at the time and many shook their heads and solemnly pronounced it a failure before there was a stick of timber on the ground or a spike driven. Two years and four months from the time of organization the association was free of debt, and the critics were nowhere to be found. June 2, 1894, the association was reorganized into a stock company, the stock being issued in shares of ten dollars each and allotted to each member in proportion to the amount each had paid into a sinking fund which had been created by deducting 5 cents per hundred from each patron's milk. The first building was erected by H. P. Clemmensen of lumber hauled from Owatonna. The dimensions of the main

building were 24x68 with a coal house 14x18. This creamery was burned August 13, 1896, it was replaced at once with the present structure, a brick building, 92x28, erected by W. A. Morin, of Albert Lea. The creamery began operations April 1, 1891. W. C. Lawson was the first buttermaker, and for about nineteen months milk was paid for by the hundred weight, each patron receiving the same price regardless of test. In November, 1892, the creamery began to test for butterfat and pay for milk on that basis. The total cash receipts for the first month were only \$1,649.84. As an illustration of the growth of this institution the following comparison should be noted: For June, 1891, 430,653 pounds of milk were received of a total cash value of \$2,887.88. Patrons were paid 55 cents per hundred for milk and charged 16 cents per pound for butter. For June, 1910, milk and cream reduced to milk, received amounted to 688,299, of a cash value of \$8,170.61. The average price paid per hundred of milk was \$1.12 and patrons were charged 28½ cents per pound for butter. From April 1, 1891, to July 1, 1910, the creamery has taken in 85,104,622 pounds of milk. From July 1, 1900, to July 1, 1910, it has received 1,590,395 pounds of cream. Reducing the cream to milk, the institution has received since the day it opened up to July 1, 1910, 96,237,387 pounds of milk, from which 4,294,040 pounds of butter were made. The amount received for this butter was \$935,522.27, of which \$849,846.57 was paid to patrons, the balance being absorbed by running expenses. The present buttermaker is L. C. Jensen, who has held this position since April 1, 1898. Two of the directors elected at the time of organization are still in office, U. C. Jansen, president, who was elected first as a director, and F. G. Sloan, secretary, who has held the same position ever since organization. The other officers at present are: Martin Lageson, vice president; G. E. Sloan, treasurer; John Ellingson, Lars Caspersen, Nels Jorgensen, directors. The name was changed from the Berlin and Summit Creamery Association to the Ellendale Creamery Association at a meeting held at the Ellendale opera house January 2, 1906.

### ELEVATORS.

Among the first buildings to be erected in Ellendale were two grain elevators, each of about 30,000 bu. capacity. One was erected by the Sheffield-King Elevator Co., of Minneapolis, and the other by the Western Elevator Co., of Winona. Gilbert Christenson was installed as agent for the Western Elevator Co. and occupied the position for a number of years, when he resigned to go into business for himself at Castle Rock, Colo.

Several buyers have held the position since then and the elevator was closed a part of the time. It is now under the management of Jas. E. Lageson, an old resident of this section who recently took up his home in the village. The Sheffield-King Co.'s house was managed by H. L. Dolge until its sale to the Farmers' Milling & Elevator Co., September 16, 1904. For some time the farmers of the neighborhood had been dissatisfied with the old line houses and the agitation for the organization of a local company to engage in the grain and feed business became so persistent that it finally culminated in a meeting being called August 22, 1903, to determine whether or not the sentiment was sufficiently strong to warrant such a project. U. C. Jansen was elected chairman and R. J. Dobell secretary of the meeting, which was well attended by farmers and business men. It was decided to go ahead with the enterprise and \$6,000 was the figure estimated necessary to carry it through. To prevent the shares of stock from eventually concentrating in a few hands it was voted to prohibit the issuance of more than twenty of the \$10 shares to any single individual. Geo. Sloan, John Peterson and U. C. Jansen were named as a committee to investigate cost of building and equipment and the following were named as a committee to solicit stockholders: D. J. Sullivan, Chas. Lonergan, Martin Lageson, Halvor Thompson, F. G. Sloan, I. W. Ferguson, U. C. Jansen, A. E. Lageson, Nels Jorgenson, H. P. Clemmensen. The soliciting having progressed satisfactorily, a meeting was held September 26, at which it was decided to incorporate, and G. E. Sloan, And. Lageson, R. J. Dobell, Chas. Lonergan and John Peterson were appointed a committee to draw up articles of incorporation. At this meeting the following directors were elected: U. C. Jansen, G. E. Sloan, Svend Svendsen, Frank Bunnell, And. Lageson, Maurice Lonergan, F. G. Sloan. The first of October following, a meeting of stockholders adopted articles of incorporation and fixed the capital stock at \$10,000, of which \$6,000 was to be paid up. The matter of a suitable site and building being brought up, a portion favored making an effort to purchase one of the old line companies' plants, while others wished to ignore them entirely and proceed with plans for a new house. Not being able to arrive at an agreement it was decided to let the directors be governed by their own judgment. October 6 the directors held a conference with W. B. Parsons, president of the Western Elevator Co., relative to buying the property of his company, but were unable to agree on a figure. November 19 a site was applied for on the Rock Island Ry. immediately south of the Sheffield-King elevator. January 13, 1904, the regular annual meeting was held and the board of directors elected at the September meeting of the previous year

were retained in office. A payment of 50 cents on each share of stock was called for to pay for incorporation expenses. The directors reported that they had not yet secured a site from the railway company, but had made some progress. They were instructed by the meeting to get the site as quickly as possible, and proceed with the building as soon as spring opened up. The amount of stock subscribed being short of the required amount by nearly \$1,000, the following committee was appointed to make further solicitation: R. H. Reynolds, L. J. Brynestad, N. C. Newgard. August 27 a special meeting was called to decide whether to build or to purchase one of the existing properties, the Sheffield company having made advances which were thought favorable to a purchase. The directors were instructed to purchase the Sheffield property if offered at a reasonable figure. September 16, 1904, a price of \$4,650 was agreed upon for the Sheffield elevator, which included a roller feed mill, and the property was transferred to the Farmers' Milling & Elevator Co., of Ellendale, which has operated the business since that time. H. L. Dolge was retained as manager, but on November 14 he resigned and was succeeded by Chas. O. Roe, of Kenyon. In September, 1905, after nearly a year of successful management, Mr. Roe resigned and his place was filled by Geo. Stearns, of New Richland, who has managed the business in a highly satisfactory manner up to the present time. During the whole period C. R. Torgerson has been the assistant and he has become an expert at the business and an invaluable employe. The company has been very successful. Besides establishing a market which is second to none in this section, it has been able to pay its stockholders 10 per cent on their investment each year and has accumulated a surplus of \$6,200. That the excellent management which it has enjoyed is not unappreciated is evidenced by the fact that practically the same board of directors control its affairs as at the beginning. They are: G. E. Sloan, president; A. E. Lageson, vice president; F. G. Sloan, secretary; U. C. Jansen, treasurer; D. F. Harty, B. O. Flesche, H. P. Clemmensen, directors.

### SCHOOLS.

Ellendale is in school district No. 67. At the time the village was platted the school house was located at Cooleyville and Levi Sanders was the teacher. With the establishment of the new town greater facilities were needed and a building erected by Andrew Gregerson for a carpenter shop at the corner of Second street and Fourth avenue was rented and the primary grades established therein, with Miss Anna Dunham as teacher. The higher grades were taught at Cooleyville by Mr. Sanders.



These rather doubtful accommodations were made to suffice the first year. June 16, 1902, a meeting was called for the purpose of designating a site for a building and to authorize the issuance of bonds to purchase it and erect a building. A majority of the voters of the district not being present, this business could not be transacted and the meeting was adjourned until the following evening. The required number being present at that time the trustees were instructed by a two-thirds vote to purchase a block of land on the east side of the railway tracks and authorized to negotiate bonds to the amount of \$5,000 to pay for the site and the erection of a suitable building. There was a strong controversy as to the location of the site and much dissatisfaction as to the choice. Many claimed that they did not understand the question when it was put and had voted for the location when they had intended to vote against it. On July 26, 1902, the directors invited bids for the new school building. When the bids were opened it was found that not enough money had been voted to erect the building contemplated and another meeting was called for Saturday, August 2, to authorize an additional issue of bonds to the amount of \$1,000. The proposition failed to carry and the directors, not believing it possible to build economically with the amount authorized, concluded to bridge the necessities of the situation with a makeshift and postpone building operations until a more favorable time. With this plan decided upon, a block of land was purchased east of the railway tracks in September and the old school building, which had seen many years service at Cooleyville, was moved upon it. Along side of it a one-story frame building was erected at a cost of \$1,000. These two buildings were made to answer the purpose for eight years, when their lack of capacity and unsanitary condition became so notorious that there was a strong probability of the district losing its share of state aid on that account. Spurred on by this state of affairs as well as by the desire for a better school, the directors caused a clause to be inserted in the notice for the annual meeting to be held July 17, 1909, stating that a vote would be taken at that time on the proposition of voting bonds in the sum of \$8,500 for the erection of a new school building. This brought to the front the old contention relative to the site and those favoring a change to the west side determined to oppose the whole project in hopes of holding it up until they could secure the change of location. For this reason the majority in favor of bonding was very small, the vote being 45 "for" to 42 "against." The opponents of bonds, still continuing their activities, found a technical error in the holding of the first election and succeeded in having it voided and a special election called for Saturday, August 14, at



which they hoped for a decisive vote in the negative. Contrary to expectations the vote was still stronger in the affirmative, being 83 to 60. The matter was then allowed to rest until the middle of March, after the contract for the new school building had been let, when another effort was made to change the site by the petition of ten freeholders for a special meeting to be held April 12, 1910. The proposition to be voted on was the exchange of the site on the east side for one on the west side, the district to be relieved of all cost by the interested parties who had deposited \$1,000 in the Security State Bank as a guarantee. This proposition hardly received a vote on its merits. There was some question as to whether or not the acceptance of the offer would invalidate the contract with the builders and result, if in nothing more serious, in the delaying of building operations for another year, and therefore it was rejected by a vote of 55 to 79.

Some of the material was already on the ground and after the meeting was held building operations were prosecuted with vigor by the contractors, Hammel & Anderson, of Owatonna, and the school house was ready for occupancy in the fall. When completed the building represented an expenditure of \$12,000. It contains four large rooms and is modern in every respect. It is heated by steam, is supplied with city water and a complete system of plumbing has been installed, including toilet rooms and sanitary drinking fountains. The basement contains two good sized playrooms for boys and girls, and the whole building represents the highest development, the latest thought, in school architecture. The school directors are: A. M. Lerberg, F. G. Sloan and U. C. Jansen.

### BEAVER LAKE.

Three miles from Ellendale is Beaver Lake, one of nature's beauty spots and a resort rapidly growing in favor with the public as an ideal place for the summer outing. The lake is something over a mile in length and about three-quarters of a mile wide. It is noted for the clearness of its waters and their great depth, the sounding line running out in places nearly 100 feet. Its shores are heavily timbered with large oak trees and afford the most delightful picnic grounds imaginable, while its waters abound with black bass, pickerel, crappies and sunfish, offering a pleasure ground which attracts enthusiastic fishermen from all quarters. Ellendale is the railway station for this summer resort.

## CHAPTER XIV

### OWATONNA CHURCHES

**Baptist — Congregational — Episcopal — Universalist — Catholic — Methodist — German Methodist — Danish Lutheran — German Lutheran — Seventh Day Adventist.**

The city of Owatonna has fourteen churches: The First Baptist Church, organized in 1857; the First Congregational Church, organized in 1857; the St. Paul's Episcopal Church, organized in 1860; the First Universalist Church, organized in 1867; the Sacred Heart Catholic Church, organized in 1867; St. Joseph's Catholic Church, organized in 1891; St. Hyacinth Polish Catholic Church, organized in 1903; the First Presbyterian Church, organized in 1859; the First Methodist Episcopal Church, organized in 1856; the German Methodist Episcopal Church, organized in 1875; the Danish Lutheran Church, organized in 1885; the First St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, organized in 1876; the St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, organized in 1876, and the Seventh Day Adventist Church, organized in 1886.

**First Baptist Church** of Owatonna.—The Baptist Church of Owatonna was organized June 27, 1857, with the following members, who were admitted upon letters from other churches to which they had previously belonged: Adolphus Town, Ann Town, Albert D. Low, N. O. Low, J. M. Finch, R. J. Tousley and Wm. H. Woods. Some time in the fall L. B. Town, Daniel Burch and S. W. Breese were also admitted by letter. The first Baptist meeting held in Owatonna, or Steele county, was on a Sabbath about the last of April, 1856, at the residence of A. B. Cornell, about fifteen persons being present, and Rev. A. Town preached the sermon. Meetings were held in the little log schoolhouse. In the autumn of 1857 Elder Knapp, one of the noted evangelists of that period, came to visit a daughter then residing here, and being invited, willingly consented to go into the little log schoolhouse, and there preached some of his wonderful sermons, with such power that many believed and were added to the church. In the winter of 1858 the pastors of the different churches (Elder Town at that time being the pastor of the Baptist Church) decided to unite in union meetings, and a large number were converted. The services were held in the

only public building in those early times—the little log school-house, 16x26 feet in size; but many were the earnest hearts that gathered there from day to day and week to week. On September 11, 1858, the churches of Ashland, Wasioja and Fari-bault met with the Owatonna church, and organized the Minnesota Central Baptist Association, which reported at that time 120 members. In 1859 Elder Town resigned the pastorate, and Elder Edgar Cady, of Lake City, was chosen to supply the place. He was followed in 1860 by Rev. A. D. Low, who acted as pastor until February, 1861, when, in consequence of a difference of opinion among the members, a vote was taken in one of the church meetings to disband the organization, and a portion of the members left and effected another church organization. Those who remained chose Elder Town as their pastor, and regular meetings were held until October, 1863. In the meantime in 1858 preliminary steps had been taken toward building a church, and during this church difficulty it had been left untouched. Early in the sixties, however, while Elder Town was pastor of the First Church, the building was completed, and on October 13, 1863, was dedicated; the dedicatory sermon being preached by Rev. D. S. Dean, of Illinois. Mr. Dean accepted a call to the pastorate of the church, and remained until April, 1865, when by mutual agreement the two churches united.

On January 31, 1863, through the differences of opinion which had arisen, the present Baptist Church of Owatonna was organized with fifteen members, nearly all who had taken their letters from the old organization placing them here, and this organization was recognized as the "Baptist Church of Owatonna" by the council of the Minnesota Central Baptist Association held at Wasioja, February 3, 1863. The society met once in two weeks for worship, being supplied by Rev. J. F. Wilcox. October 1, 1863, this church was first represented at the State convention, the delegates being G. W. Shaw and E. K. Smith. On April 8, 1865, the two Baptist churches were consolidated with a united membership of sixty-four, and they took the name of "The First Baptist Church of Owatonna." For a time the pulpit was supplied alternately by Revs. J. F. Wilcox and D. S. Dean. The former, however, continued as regular pastor of the church until June, 1866, when his labors closed, and he was succeeded by Rev. A. L. Cole. After the union of the two bodies, the building which had been erected under Elder Town's direction had been purchased by the church and used as a place of worship. In the autumn of 1866 it was sold to the school district for \$1,250, the use of it for one year being reserved. In the fall a new church building was erected,

size 32x58 feet, with tower, in which was hung a 1,000-pound bell. It was dedicated on December 22, 1867, Rev. Parker, from Austin, preaching the dedicatory sermon. The cost of the building was \$4,152.64, which had all been provided for, leaving the church free from debt. The following winter will long be remembered as a time of religious revival. There were forty-three baptisms, and many more united with the church by conversion and letter. Rev. Cole resigned in April, 1869, and Rev. E. H. Cressey succeeded him, remaining thirteen months. On February 1, 1871, Rev. H. H. Beach came from Winona, and after serving a year and a half he also resigned. Rev. E. P. Dye succeeded him as pastor and remained until June 28, 1874. Among the events recorded about this time is found the following interesting item: "June, 1873—A deed was presented to the trustees by Sister Reiggs (now deceased), on behalf of the ladies of the church, of a lot for a parsonage. On motion a vote of thanks was extended to Mother Hunkins for her untiring zeal and her effort in helping to pay for the lot." In 1878 the lot was sold, and the proceeds used toward paying for the present parsonage, bought at that time. The ladies have cheerfully helped to bear the burden. A sewing society established about this time is still faithfully attended, the proceeds from which have been no little help financially. Rev. W. W. Whitcomb accepted a call to the pastorate September 20, 1874, and remained for three years. The Minnesota Academy, now the Pillsbury Academy, was located here during his pastorate, and he was untiring in his efforts to attain that end. Rev. C. H. DeWolfe succeeded him in February, 1878, and after a service of nearly five years was, on account of ill health, compelled to resign, October 25, 1882. The church remained without a pastor until April 26, 1883, when Rev. J. H. Thompson accepted a call to the place, remaining about fifteen months. After his resignation they were again without a pastor until the autumn of 1884, when Rev. W. A. Spinney accepted a call from this church. During the summer of 1885 material improvements were made on the church properties in the way of papering and painting, and a vestry, 16x26 feet in size, was added, so that the church was spacious, and being well furnished abundantly filled the purpose for which it was built.

On August 4, 1889, Rev. Stanley A. McKay, D. D., began his ministry, during which the present brick edifice was erected at a cost of \$17,000. At the time of the dedication, February 9, 1893, the indebtedness was provided for. The beautiful organ was a gift to the church from Mrs. Margaret S. Pillsbury. On May 10, 1895, Rev. Elijah B. Jones, D. D., began his services in Owatonna and for seven years was a potent influence in the



life of the church, academy and the city. Rev. Edwin S. Stucker became pastor of the church on March 1, 1903. Mr. Stucker held several evangelistic meetings throughout the state during his ministry. In 1906, Deacon L. C. Woodman presented to the church a neat parsonage on East Vine street.

Rev. John G. Briggs, A. M., B. D., entered upon his ministry February 24, 1907, which charge he holds at the present time. In 1908 Deacon Woodman supplemented his liberal gift by building a barn on the rear of the parsonage lot. The church renovated the parsonage in the summer of 1907 at an expense of \$600. During the summer of 1910, the ladies of the church provided for the redecorating of the auditorium of the church and for the cork linoleum carpeting of the gallery of the auditorium and of the parlors at a cost of \$800. Since 1865, there has been a continued progress from year to year. Revival seasons have been frequent. The church has stood for a fervent evangelical spirit. In 1877 the institution now known as Pillsbury Academy was opened in Owatonna, the faculty and students of which have had a vital part in the efficiency and spiritual development of the church. The church is thoroughly organized, and is doing progressive work in most of the departments. The Sunday school has four departments—the kindergarten, primary, intermediate and senior school, with graduating exercises in the primary and intermediate departments each fall. The Ladies' Aid Society hold meetings once a month and assist in the social life of the church. The Mission Circle and Young Women's Missionary societies have programs once a month. The Baptist Brotherhood have programs from time to time. The B. Y. P. U. Society holds its meetings every Sunday evening. The present officers of the church are as follows: J. C. Briggs, pastor; J. L. Ingraham, church clerk; deacons, L. C. Woodman, W. E. Martin, M. P. Price, J. Holland, J. L. Ingraham, E. J. Owen, A. Seidel; deaconesses, Mrs. M. B. Price, Mrs. J. L. Ingraham, Mrs. W. E. Martin, Mrs. A. M. Kinyon, Mrs. N. P. Peterson. Board of trustees: Dr. W. C. Roberts, chairman; Milo B. Price, secretary board; W. E. Kimball, L. F. Loomis, N. P. Peterson.

**First Congregational Church.** Years ago a small company left their homes in Ohio and traveled by team to Minnesota. As we reached the top of the hill, just east of the present city of Owatonna, and gazed upon the beautiful landscape, we could not as now count many church spires. Upon inquiry we found there were no church organizations in the village, although the Methodist was organized the same month, and they and the Baptists were holding services on alternate Sundays in the old log schoolhouse. The first service in Steele county was held



in Owatonna in 1855. From Mrs. Avery Adams I received the account of this service. "Our first pastor, Rev. O. A. Thomas, had, a few weeks previous, arrived in this vicinity in his emigrant wagon drawn by oxen, and taken a claim in Clinton Falls and was preparing the logs for his cabin. On a lovely Sabbath morning in June, he, with his estimable wife, called at our cabin door and invited us to accompany them up Straight river three miles, where there was a little settlement, in order to hold Sabbath service. We readily assented, and found a hearty welcome from Mrs. A. B. Cornell, and a room full of people, seated variously on boxes, benches, etc., and soon there sounded for the first time over these beautiful prairies the voice of public prayer and praise. After the exercises were concluded the rude seats were removed, the tables spread, and the hospitable lady prepared dinner for us."

From that time, services were held by the different denominations in the old schoolhouse, until the fall of 1857, when a few who were wont to worship together called a meeting at the home of A. N. Stoughton, to discuss the advisability of organizing a church. After some discussion the meeting adjourned to meet in the old schoolhouse on Mill street (where our first ward building now stands), on Thursday, October 22, 1857, at 2 p. m., at which time the organization was completed. The churches of Faribault and Clinton Falls were invited to assist. Faribault did not respond. The Clinton Falls church was represented by its pastor, Rev. Ozra A. Thomas, who preached the sermon. Rev. John C. Strong, from Bradford, Iowa, who was in the village for a few days, assisted in the public services of formation and recognition. Twelve persons entered into covenant as members of the First Congregational Church of Owatonna, viz: A. N. Stoughton, Mary A. Stoughton, his wife; Wait Stoughton, Melburn C. Burr, George W. Danford, Lydia H. Hall, George Hall, Emeline Hall, Charles A. Strong, Jessie B. Gailad, Emery C. Walden and Naomi L. Stoughton (Towne).

As the schoolhouse was occupied by other denominations, it was not always available for the services of this church, so during the winter we joined from time to time with the other denominations in union services which resulted in many additions to the churches. At our first communion, March 6, 1858, Rev. I. A. Thomas preached the sermon and seven united with us, viz: Richard Miles, Mrs. Adaline Miles, Emily A. Raymond (Chambers), Hannah L. Hall, Mrs. Elizabeth Sibley, Emily Strong (Donaldson), Minerva Strong (Bodle). At this time we had but one deacon, A. N. Stoughton, who was elected to that office February 25, 1858, which office he still held at the time of his death. At the same time Charles A. Strong was elected

clerk. Being unable to find a suitable room in which to hold our meetings, in the spring Deacon Stoughton employed Mr. Miles to build a wing on the east side of his home (which house still stands on East School street, between Elm and Grove) for this purpose. The church worshiped until the fall of 1859 in this room, and not our church alone but other denominations, the Methodists, Episcopalians, etc.

In April, 1858, Rev. O. A. Thomas began his labors among us as pastor of the church at a salary of \$200 or \$250 a year. Continuing to reside on his farm in Clinton Falls, he preached on alternate Sundays to the Clinton Falls and Owatonna churches, going once a month both to Somerset and Meriden. In May, 1858, our first trustees, three in number, were elected—Dea. A. N. Stoughton, Wait Stoughton and Richard Miles. The summer following was a trying one to the pioneers of Steele county. The financial panic of 1857 was still felt by the people of the vicinity. A severe hailstorm, coming just before the harvest, destroyed all the grain, and many farmers lived on cornmeal, some on boiled oats, and one family lived for weeks on boiled pigweed. Barley and peas served for coffee, and a mild weed which grew on the prairie as tea.

It was in the autumn after such a summer that the Ladies' Mite Society was organized with Mrs. A. N. Stoughton as president, Emily Strong (Donaldson) secretary, and Mrs. Elizabeth Ware, treasurer. In July, 1858, we welcomed Deacon Thom and family. He was chosen deacon in 1860 and was never permitted to return to the ranks. We worshiped two years in Deacon Stoughton's house, and in the summer of 1860 in Morford's hall (the upper part of the building on Bridge street, where Mr. Rosebrock's store now is) a series of meetings was held in which the evangelist, Rev. Morgan, assisted, which greatly strengthened the church. As soon as the new school-house was finished, in 1862, it became the meeting place of this as well as of other denominations. Deacon Stoughton, having purchased a small organ, carried it each Sabbath morning on his wheelbarrow to the church. His niece, Mrs. Hughes, often speaks of how she used to carry a lamp and steady the organ when going home at night. Before this, "Ye old time choir," consisting of Wait Stoughton, John Hale Abbott, Elder Davidson, Mrs. Bliss, Mrs. Abbott, Emily Strong (Donaldson), and Naomi L. Stoughton (Towne), had taken the pitch from the tuning fork which Wait never forgot to carry.

In the fall of 1863 we bade farewell to Rev. Thomas, who had been with us through those first trying years, and the church was without a pastor the following winter.

December 10, 1863, occurred the death of Isaac Styles Wads-

worth, Mrs. A. N. Stoughton's son, who left a legacy of \$1,000 for the church. A part of this was used to buy the lot on which the house stands, the remainder being the first money received towards the erection of the building.

The next spring (1864) Charles L. Tappan accepted a call to the pastorate, which he filled for two years at a salary of \$400 to \$450. During his ministry he preached at Somerset, where a number of the church members resided. In November, 1866, these eight members were dismissed from the mother church to form an organization of their own.

In the spring of 1865 our Sunday school was organized. Previous to this a union school had been held with Deacon Stoughton as superintendent. Dr. L. H. Kelly was elected superintendent and Raymond A. Stoughton secretary, treasurer and organist; teachers, Deacon Thom, Deacon Stoughton, Mr. Adams, Mrs. Ware, Mrs. Sargent and Mrs. N. L. Towne. In August, 1866, Rev. Leverett S. Griggs became pastor of our church at a salary of \$800.

In the spring of 1867 work was commenced on our new church (a part of our present structure). The building was 36x60 feet, with a tower 12x12, and an extension in the rear 7x8 feet for a pulpit, and an orchestra in the west end for the choir. Although not finished we moved into our building in the fall. It was grouted upon the sides and sheeted and furnished with movable seats. Work continued during the winter, the shavings being swept up every Saturday evening. In October, 1867, five more of our members, thinking it their duty to help organize a church in Waseca, asked for letters from our church, which were granted to Frederick J. Stevens, Lucy P. Stevens, Mrs. Lydia H. Vinton, W. H. Vinton and Gordon Henshaw. In the autumn of 1868 the church was plastered. The Methodists kindly invited us to worship with them, which we did for a few weeks. In June, 1869, Rev. Leverett S. Griggs was compelled, on account of ill-health, to resign. On July 3, 1869, Merton made a great demand upon the church and thirteen were dismissed. Among the number were Philo J. Sheldon and wife, Mrs. Abby Tulth and her son Fenrick D. and daughter Alice. August 22, 1869, Rev. Chester Craigan, a recent graduate of Chicago Theological Seminary, began his work with us at a salary of \$1,000. He was ordained the following year on February 17. During the session of the general conference, on Sunday, October 17, our church was dedicated. In the spring, 1871, Rev. Charles C. Craigan resigned, and in the fall of the same year Rev. Newton H. Bell took up the work, remaining with us until 1873, when he went as a missionary to Turkey.

C. W. Hall, a young man who was professor of our high

school, and is now at the State University, read sermons through the winter and until the coming of Rev. Orson C. Dickerson, July, 1874. He remained with us until October, 1876. The following year, Dr. D. M. B. Thom left us to go to Turkey as a missionary. In November, 1876, Rev. Darius A. Morehouse came to us, remaining with us five years, until June 1, 1881.

In 1876 the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society was organized with eleven members. Mrs. Morehouse was chosen president, Mrs. Spellman, secretary and treasurer. The following year the Home Society was organized and the money was divided between the two societies, and in 1880 we voted that each alternate monthly meeting should be a home meeting. In September, 1881, Rev. J. Newton Brown began his labors among us. During his pastorate a Young People's Society was organized, which held its prayer meetings each Sunday evening just before the service. A little later the Christian Endeavor Society was organized.

In 1881, Rev. J. Newton Brown was called. April 28, 1889, he tendered his resignation, but this was not accepted. Later, November 24, 1889, he again tendered his resignation, which was this time accepted. May 1, 1890, came Rev. James A. Chamberlain, who remained a little over six years. During his stay, parlors were built on the church and other improvements made. January 21, 1897, Joseph H. Chandler took up his work here. After three years he was followed by Rev. J. Sidney Gould, who in turn was succeeded in 1904 by Rev. James Parsons. May 1, 1906, Rev. Everett Leshar took charge of the pulpit, and he was succeeded about a year and a half ago by the present pastor, the Rev. Alfred E. Gregory.—Compiled from article by Mrs. Naomi L. Towne.

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church.** The first service of this church in Owatonna was held by the Rev. J. Lloyd Breck, of Faribault, June 22, 1858. In the fall of 1859 Bishop Kemper and Mr. Wilcoxson left Hastings September 29. They reached Faribault at night, where the bishop preached. The next day's journey brought the travelers to the rural district of Somerset, in Steele county. Their route lay up the valley of Straight river, past a few scattered houses known as the village of Owatonna. They found hospitality at the house of a farmer, Elijah H. Sibley, and held a service, the first Episcopal Church service in Steele county. In the afternoon they preached at Bancroft. October 3 found them in Medford, where the good people gladly listened to the preaching of the word, and two children of Mr. Colgan were baptized. A year later there were three communicants. After the associated mission was formed at Faribault, Owatonna became one of the regular missions and was cared for by the



Revs. Moses, Breck and Sanford in turn, or by a student from the Seabury Divinity School. In the summer of 1859 the Rev. Solan W. Manney became one of the clergy of the mission and visited Owatonna, holding services every other Sunday. Others who officiated were the Rev. George C. Tanner and Rev. S. S. Bruleson, who were also members of the mission, the former a teacher, the latter a student pursuing his studies and in deacon's order. The Rev. Mr. Bruleson was in charge of the services for a time, until he moved to Northfield in 1864. At the time Mr. Breck visited Owatonna, so far as known, there was but one Episcopal family, Mr. and Mrs. David Potwin, both of whom were communicants. There were a few people kindly disposed towards the Episcopal Church, but not members. Among them were M. A. Daily and family, who kindly gave Mr. Breck the use of his office, on the corner of Cedar and Main, for his service; also Mrs. E. Y. Hunniwell, who came to Owatonna in 1857. Though not a communicant, her house became the home of the missionary. Mr. and Mrs. Sylvanus Yearly were confirmed by Bishop Whipple, December 23, 1860. Mrs. Hunniwell and Mrs. Bessie Pearce Hanna were confirmed at Bishop Whipple's second visit about November 14, 1862.

On August 19, 1860, St. Paul's parish was duly organized by the Rev. Solon W. Manney. M. A. Daily was elected clerk of the meeting; David Potwin, senior warden; John Clozier, junior warden; N. M. Donaldson, S. M. Yearly, John Odell, W. A. Ware, M. D., William H. Kelly, M. A. Daily, vestrymen. The parish was admitted into the union with the convention of the Diocese in June, 1861. At the time of the first service in 1858 the population of the village was about 300. Services were held for a time in the wing of Deacon Stoughton's house. All bodies of Christians held services here, each using the room in turn, the people all attending the several services. After some time a frame schoolhouse was built near the present Baptist Church, and this was the common place of religious services. Then a hall known as Morford's Hall, on Bridge street, was used until the Presbyterian Church was built just west of the Arnold house, which was loaned to this congregation for a service on alternate Sundays.

About November 1, 1864, the Rev. J. H. Babcock moved to Owatonna, took charge of the parish, adding Wilton to his care.

From April 1, 1867, to November, 1886, Rev. George C. Tanner (Faribault) was in charge of the church in Steele county. In May, 1867, he removed to Owatonna, the first service being held on Palm Sunday. During the summer of 1867 a small chapel was erected, with seating for about 125, at a cost of about \$1,500, of which half was given by the people of Owatonna and



the rest by the bishop and friends abroad. The building was used for the first time for divine services in July, though it had neither windows, doors or pews, and consecrated as a chapel and parish schoolhouse, November 15. The building was used for church services until August 17, 1884. Soon a house was built on Grove and Rice streets, partly with funds given by friends in the parish and outside and in part with the private means of the rector. Though known as the rectory, the title was never in the parish, and when the new church was built, in 1884, the amount which the church had contributed, \$900, was returned to the parish and used towards the building fund. Dr. Tanner always held the property of the rectory in his own name.

Dr. Tanner held services regularly part of the time at Wells, in Blue Earth, Winnebago City, Havana and Lemond. He performed occasional services at Austin. At times he was the only Episcopal clergyman in the region south of Faribault. For a few years the church received accessions and the parish prospered. In 1876 some business changes occurred, which caused removals that were a serious loss; this was followed by emigrations to newer parts of the state, so that in following years it was a severe struggle to maintain the church. Dr. Tanner was also superintendent of schools for fifteen years, from 1872 to 1887, until he resigned care of the parish. In this position he was able to perform many ministrations, which he could not have done. During a visit to Blooming Prairie a wish was expressed for the services of the church. A service was held in the schoolhouse then standing on the site of the present church. Other services followed, resulting in the building of a church. Services were also held in schoolhouses within five or ten miles of Owatonna and in the towns of Aurora, Somerset, Lemond, Meriden and Dodge City. Dr. Tanner held services in Manterville, Kasson, also at times in Wilton, Waseca, Janesville. During the year he made a monthly visit to Albert Lea and assisted in raising money for a church there. In the fall of 1883 the foundation for a new church was laid, and the building was completed in the following year. The first service ever held in the new church was the funeral of John Locke, October 18, 1884. The first service on Sunday was by Dr. Tanner, October 26. The church was consecrated by Bishop Whipple, August 17, 1885; the cost, including the furnishings, was about \$5,000. The last service of Dr. Tanner as rector was held November 21, 1886. The following week he entered upon his duties as chaplain at Bethany College, Kansas.

During the winter of 1886-1887 services were kept up by clergymen from Faribault. After five months, Rev. R. E. Medcalf entered upon his duties May 11, 1887. He was also in

charge of services in Waseca. From 1887 to June 1 he held regular services there, and was highly esteemed in both places. At Owatonna his work prospered, and his resignation on January 20, 1889, was sincerely regretted by all. Mr. Medcalf was followed by Rev. Andrew Harper, who was in charge from July, 1889, until February 2, 1890, when services were supplied from Faribault. In July, 1891, Rev. P. B. Peabody entered upon his work in Owatonna, in charge until 1894. Dr. Tanner ministered to the people until July, when Rev. Theodore Payne Thurston was appointed to minister to the people. He resigned to take duty at Winona, 1897. He was succeeded by Rev. A. G. Pinkham, who was in charge until November, 1906, when Rev. Elmer N. Schmuck assumed charge.

Mr. and Mrs. Hunniwell came to Owatonna in 1857. The church was much indebted to them for the support of services. Mr. Hunniwell died in 1893, leaving all his wealth to his wife. She died February 4, 1896. She was a charter member of the Episcopal Church, a regular and devoted attendant and gave generously. Being of a liberal and public spirit, she bequeathed a large part of the estate to public institutions, \$20,000 to the public library of Owatonna; \$32,000 to Breck school at Wilder; \$10,000 to St. Mary's Hall at Faribault, to provide scholarships for the daughters of missionaries; to St. Paul's Church in Owatonna, \$3,000 for a rectory and \$10,000 for an endowment.—By George C. Tanner, D. D.

**The First Universalist Society of Owatonna.** The original organization of the First Universalist Society of Owatonna was effected on April 20, 1867, by a few persons who believed in that faith and who were ably counceiled and assisted by the Rev. J. H. Tuttle, who was then in charge of the Church of the Redeemer, of Minneapolis, and who remained the guiding spirit of that church for many years thereafter, and who was a great spiritual help to the then struggling society here in Owatonna. The first trustees and officers were chosen at a meeting held on May 19, 1867, and resulted in the election of S. B. Washburn, H. J. Lewis and L. L. Bennett as trustees; A. C. Gutterson treasurer, and Charles C. Cornell clerk, and during the early part of that year held their meetings in the old one-story wood schoolhouse in the first ward, very near the present location of the present first ward school building; soon after, however, removing to the old schoolhouse located in the second ward, where they remained for several years, but finally locating in the room known as Dressers' hall, now used in connection with the general merchandise business of Nelson Hartvig Company.

At this time the constitution and by-laws of the society were adopted and such religious services as the society was able to

give were continued until in the following year Rev. S. Wakefield was chosen and installed as the first regular pastor. Mr. Wakefield remained with the society until 1870. The society was then for several years without any regular pastor. In January of 1875 a re-organization of the society was made. The old constitution and by-laws, with some few minor changes, were again adopted, and in the following year Edwin W. Pierce was called as pastor. Later the Rev. H. B. Butler was a very acceptable pastor of the society for quite a number of years. In 1888 the Rev. J. L. Andrew was the pastor. Later, and until 1891 the Rev. W. S. Pechin had charge of the society. Following the Rev. Pechin, Rev. J. F. Hammond was the society's pastor, and in that year was erected the church parlors in the form of a large addition to the church building, which had been built several years previous, making a very useful and convenient room for church gatherings, Sunday school, and various other purposes. About this time Rev. George Crum was in charge of the society and remained its efficient pastor until 1901. Following the Rev. George Crum, Rev. John W. Carter was duly installed as pastor of the society, and for five years he proved to be a most efficient leader. During the time of his pastorate the old church, with most of its furnishings, was destroyed by fire, but under his inspiration and the very liberal donations of the members of the society, a new church building was erected on the same lots upon which the old church stood, and is now one of the fine church buildings of which Owatonna has reason to be proud. The church grounds comprise a plat 132 feet square, located on the corner of Elm and Main streets, and is estimated to be worth, with building, fully \$20,000. Following the Rev. John W. Carter, Rev. Harry L. Canfield was duly installed as pastor, and so remained until the latter part of 1908, when the Rev. George F. Hughes took charge of the society and is still its acceptable pastor.

The history and the life of the First Universalist Society, like all the other Christian churches established in those early days, was one of continual struggle for life and establishment, and it required the pioneer spirit of those days to persevere to accomplish the founding of the different religious organizations. Many of the charter members of the Universalist Society have passed on to the realization of the home beyond. In fact, so far as it is known to the writer, there are but two living, viz, Dr. and Mrs. L. L. Bennett. But there is now existing a good membership of younger people, upon whose shoulders the burden rests, and under whose care we have every prospect and faith of the permanency of the society and church, and especially so for the reason that all strife and bickerings between the different

Christian organizations of this beautiful city have passed away, and all fraternize to the fullest extent consistent with their especial church rules. In fact, the Universalist Church is under many obligations to all the other religious societies of Owatonna, and as a whole membership, wish a God speed for the success of all the other Christian societies.—By L. L. Bennett, M. D.

**St. Joseph's Catholic Church** was organized in 1891 by the Rev. P. F. Kiernan, who still remains as pastor. The church and parsonage are on Elm and Fremont streets, and the congregation is in a prosperous condition. Father Kiernan has been in Owatonna longer than any other pastor now living here, and has taken an active part in the civic and literary as well as spiritual and moral advancement of the city.

**St. Hyacinth Polish Catholic Church** was organized in 1903, and at once erected a suitable house of worship. The present pastor is the Rev. J. Smicch, and the church is in a prosperous condition.

**First Presbyterian Church.** The first services of this denomination were held at Owatonna in the winter of 1855-56, by Rev. Harvey Chapin, who located here in February, 1856, dividing his labors, however, between this and several other villages, and organizing churches at Dodge City, East Prairieville and Ashland. On September 13, 1857, he organized the Presbyterian Church, with the following as the first members: Mrs. Judge Donaldson, Mrs. Jane Chapin, Mrs. Jane McCaslin, Mrs. Elizabeth Ashton and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Adair. They were joined by William Davidson and wife and a few others within a year afterward. For several years Mr. Chapin preached in the old log schoolhouse, until 1863, when, principally through his own influences and indefatigable labors, a church was commenced, he and William Davidson hauling the logs for timbers, and in 1864 it was completed. In this small but neat church Mr. Chapin continued to preach until the spring of 1865, when he removed to Tipton, Mo. In that place his ministerial labors were brought to a sudden and mournful close. His house caught fire, and, in an effort, as was supposed, to save important papers, he perished in the flames. Mr. Chapin was succeeded in Owatonna by Rev. H. W. Nelson. In the fall of 1865, Rev. I. Faries, who had come to Minnesota in search of health, became a temporary supply, but in May, 1867, his failing health deprived the church of ministrations which had been eminently useful. On July 22, 1867, Rev. R. J. Cunningham accepted an invitation from the church and continued his labors here for one year, when he accepted a call to Rushford. Since that time the following have served as pastors of this church in the order named: Reverends W. S. Wilson, J. J. Ward, James McCauley, O.



Thatcher, William Pelan, James McGowan, Robert A. Anderson, H. Cullen, W. K. Weaver, George P. McGill and J. S. McCormack.

Services were first held in the old log schoolhouse, and then for one season in Morford's hall. After this a frame schoolhouse, which stood where the first ward school building is now located, was used until 1864, when the church edifice was completed. It was a frame building, just west of the Arnold house. This building served as a house of worship until 1877, when the present church was built at a cost of \$3,000. The old building was sold to J. G. A. Dennerline, and was used for some time by the German Reform denomination. The church was organized legally, with corporate powers, in 1859, the certificate of organization being filed May 28, 1859. The trustees elected at that time were D. S. Harsha, W. F. Drum, Robert Adair, W. F. Pettit and William Davidson.

During the first few years after this church was organized a Union Sunday school was maintained by all the denominations, alternating in furnishing the superintendent and officers. At an early day, however, the Presbyterian Sunday school was organized, which is still in thriving condition.

The present officers of the session are: Edward Donaldson (chairman), Sewell Hodgman (clerk), Alexander Ferrier, C. J. Hansel and Robert Thom. The trustees are: Dr. J. H. Adair (president), A. G. Scholl (secretary), George R. Kenyon (treasurer), Walter Amos and Frank Leggo. Edward Donaldson is superintendent of the Sunday school; Miss Esther Adair, assistant superintendent; Louis Hammel, Jr., secretary; Lyman Olson, treasurer; and Mrs. J. H. Adair, superintendent of the primary department. The church has the usual societies and organizations.

**The Methodist Episcopal Church** of Owatonna was organized in October, 1856, with five charter members, viz: William B. Norman, Sarah Jane Norman, Amelia Oliver, James Soper and Emily Soper. So far as I have been able to learn, none of these are now living. James and Emily Soper are not the James and Emily Soper that were living here at the time of the building of the present church, and who bought for their use during their lifetime one of the pews in the church at the time it was built. This later family came into the church in 1865. The Methodist was the first church organized in this city, and was followed by the Baptist, in June, 1857; the Presbyterian, in September, 1857; the Congregational, in October, 1857, and the Episcopal, in 1860. The church held its first meeting in the old log schoolhouse, situated on the grounds of the present first ward schoolhouse, where they alternated with the other denomi-

nations in holding services. From there they moved to the Baptist Church, later to Morford's hall, and from there to the Dreser hall, where they remained till the fall of 1857, when they moved into their own first church, subsequently known as "the little brown church," which was built on the ground now occupied by the parlor of the present church. As one of the then members writes me, "After eleven years of homeless wandering, as we moved into 'the little brown church' we felt indeed that we had reached the promised land." That church cost \$2,000, and was built and completed, ready for occupancy, in sixty days, and continued to be the home of the church for just the time they had been wandering in the wilderness—eleven years—when the present church edifice was built, in 1878, at a cost of about \$8,000. The building committee of the present edifice was George E. Peck, John Q. Ellis, A. C. Hickman, S. W. Farmer, D. O. Searle and S. N. Lund. The builder was W. H. Burdick, who commenced work on August 24, 1878, and completed it November 30 of the same year, and it was dedicated on the following day by Chaplain (afterwards Bishop) McCabe. The builder and the building committee, with the exception of A. C. Hickman, who is now one of the professors in the law department of the State University, have been called to the hereafter. The first sermon preached in the new church by the pastor, Rev. M. S. Kauffman, was from the text, "The glory of this latter house shall be greater than the former, saith the Lord of Hosts, and in this place will I give peace." In 1883 the church was seriously damaged by a cyclone, the building being moved on its foundation about six inches and the plastering inside largely torn off, so that it had to be entirely re-plastered and put back on its foundation. In 1902, the church was remodeled by diminishing the size of the audience room and adding two Sunday school class rooms, and enlarging and improving the gallery.

The first parsonage was built the same year that "the little brown church" was built, and was occupied by Rev. E. R. Lathrop, who was the past spring elected mayor of the city of Hastings. There seems to be some uncertainty as to where the first parsonage was built, whether on what is now known as the John Donaldson property, adjoining the residence of the writer, or immediately across School street, but at any rate the John Donaldson property became the parsonage at a later date, and in 1877 was traded for the present parsonage lot, adjoining the church, where the present parsonage was built in 1892. In 1908 a large, beautiful pipe organ was added to the attractions of the church. The church is now one of the largest and

most commodious and best adapted for church services of any in the city.

So much for the temporalities of the church. What of the men and women who have reared and maintained these temples of worship? In the nearly fifty-four years of the church's history, it has had twenty-five pastors, including the present occupant, ten of whom have entered into the promised land. Rev. J. C. Ogle, who was stricken with death while preaching in the church, held the longest pastorate, nearly five years. The names of the pastors and the order of their appointments are as follows: Solomon Wetzel, 1856; Aaron Matson, 1857; J. M. Rogers, 1859; Robert Hoover, 1860; F. A. Conwell, 1861; Ira H. Richardson, 1862; Thomas McClary, 1864; E. R. Lathrop, 1866; S. T. Sterrett, 1867; C. Hoovis, 1869; R. Washburn, 1869; J. W. Martin, 1871; A. B. Bishop, 1873; H. G. Bilbie, 1875; M. S. Kauffman, 1877; John Whistler, 1880; J. H. Dewart, 1882; G. H. Hare, 1885; J. C. Ogle, 1886; R. N. Avison, 1891; Samuel Ellery, 1895; W. N. Jamieson, 1898; E. H. Goodell, 1902; W. R. Keesey, 1903; M. G. Schuman, 1907; D. M. Johnson, 1910. Of those living, Ira H. Richardson is now out of the ministry and living at Ortonville, Minn.; E. R. Lathrop, now mayor of the city of Hastings; J. W. Martin, chaplain of the Bethel boat in St. Paul; A. B. Bishop, practicing medicine in California; H. G. Bilbie, residing at Owatonna, Minn.; M. S. Kauffman, who was the pastor during the building of the present church, is now at Fall River, Mass.; John Whistler's home is in Denver, Colo., just where he is preaching I am unable to state; R. N. Avison is now pastor of the Hamline Church; J. H. Ellery is located at Newport, Minn.; W. N. Jamieson, First M. E. Church of Mankato; E. H. Goodell, Red Wing, Minn.; W. R. Keesey, Northfield, Minn.; and M. G. Shuman, Redwood Falls, Minn.

But few of the laity are still living who were here when the first church was built. Among them, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Doolittle, Miss Jane Doolittle, Mrs. Eliza Warner, Mrs. Mary Baldwin, Mrs. Mary Burdick, Mrs. Mary Laird (Mrs. Laird died since writing this article), so far as I know, only remain. In 1865 the church had a membership of ninety-nine. At one time it got up to 270. It now has 193 members. The high tide of prosperity in the church, both financially and religiously, seemed to have been reached at the time of the building of the present church, when more than \$14,000 was subscribed during the two years, and 143 taken into the church on probation.

The Sabbath school was organized in 1865, with A. C. Hickman as the first superintendent, and a membership of 101. Since then the membership has varied somewhat, but upon the whole has gradually increased. The superintendents of the Sunday

school have been, in the order named: A. C. Hickman, J. S. Woodard, W. A. Sperry, A. W. Rankin, C. B. Wilkinson, A. J. McCornack, Frank LaBare, E. J. Gleason and James Manuel, the present incumbent.—By W. A. Sperry.

**The German Methodist Episcopal Church** was organized in 1875, with the following members, including their families: August Mollenhauer, C. F. Mattwoig, August Mierke, August Soehler, Carl Sette, William Mundt, Mr. Keller, William Mogler, John Ellison, Gustave Buche and W. Wocker. At that time this circuit included Deerfield, Blooming Grove, Owatonna, Somerset, Meriden and Aurora.

In the fall of 1875, Deerfield and Blooming Grove were taken from the circuit, leaving the other appointments, which have been supplied with the following pastors: Rev. H. Schnitker was the first preacher in charge, but Rev. Jacob Keller served the newly arranged circuit; F. W. Buchholz came in 1878; E. A. Borchardt, in 1879; H. E. Young, in 1880; F. Hogrefe, in 1882; H. F. Lange, 1884; C. A. Borchart, 1886; George Hoerger, 1888; J. C. Pfeifer, 1890; E. P. Christ, 1895; C. L. Lehnert, 1898; J. G. Lehnert, 1898; F. J. Weigano, 1900; H. F. Krienke, 1901; H. J. Hoffert, 1904; J. F. Steiner, 1906; H. Clement, 1907. In 1910 the Owatonna and the Rochester charges were united, and F. C. Schultz placed in charge.

When the church was first organized in Owatonna, services were held in a schoolhouse. At that time a Sunday school was organized which is still maintained. In 1877 a neat building was erected at the corner of North Elm and Pearl streets, which has served as a place of worship ever since. This charge consists at present of two appointments, Owatonna and Aurora.

**The Danish-Norwegian Lutheran Church**, in Owatonna, was started about 1868, with meetings in private houses and in the building now occupied by the Seventh Day Adventists. The Rev. N. Olsen was at that time the pastor in charge. The church was regularly organized October 22, 1885, and the church edifice was erected and dedicated in 1897. The pastors have been the Revs. S. Strand, G. B. Christiansen, N. S. Nielsen, J. P. Naarup, N. P. Lang, M. T. Jensen and A. N. Lund, the present capable pastor. The first trustees of the church were William Mork, Laust Andersen and Simon Williamsen. The first clerk was L. C. Larsen. N. P. Jeffersen and Nils Jacobson were also prominent in the early days. The president of the church is Iver Anderson; the clerk, Laurence Christiansen; the treasurer, Anton Jacobsen; the trustees, Christ Stephensen, Peter Andersen and Eric Jensen.

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church.** About 1870 the services of this denomination were held in private houses, and



an organization was effected. Rev. Emmil came here occasionally from Meriden and preached. The first regular pastor was Rev. F. Hauser, who came here in 1876, and remained about one year. Rev. A. H. Wetzel succeeded him, and during his pastorate in 1878 a neat church edifice was erected. F. Johl served a short time, after which Rev. G. P. A. Schaaf, from Aurora, filled the pulpit until 1880. Rev. Carl Mende was the next pastor, and remained until 1883, when Rev. Schaaf again occupied the pulpit for a short time. At this time came a split in the church, the congregation withdrawing from the Synod of Missouri and joining that of Iowa and Minnesota. Those who remained faithful to the old synod formed another church. Rev. F. Klein preached his first sermon here on March 1, 1884, remaining until the fall of 1909, when he was succeeded by Rev. Conrad Winters. A beautiful new church building was erected in 1899.

**First St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church.** In the early eighties, when the Missourian and Anti-Missourian controversy was rife, a part of the congregation of the St. John's Lutheran Church decided to withdraw from the Missouri Synod and join that of Iowa and Minnesota. As this body was in the majority, the whole church withdrew and made the synodical change, while the ones who remained faithful to the Missouri Synod continued their organization, and, being without a house of worship, met in the members' houses. They were served for a while by G. P. A. Schaaf and John Schulenberg, from other congregations, until 1896, when the latter became the resident pastor. In 1897 a fine church edifice and parsonage were built. Later a school addition was erected. In 1903 the present pastor, Rev. E. H. A. Paul, took charge. He also has charge of the congregations in Deerfield and Richland townships. Albert Bartsch is the secretary of the church and A. G. Kranz the treasurer. The trustees are Albert Bartsch, Herbert Paul and Carl Lisher. The deacons are A. G. Kranz, Louis Bartsch and G. Dulitz. The trustees of the school are F. H. Joesting and Robert Bartsch.

**Church of the Sacred Heart.** It is claimed that the first Catholics in Steele county were Thomas and John Bergan, Michael Barney, Joseph Kiesel, James McLaughlin and James Lonergan. Rev. Father Keller was the first priest to hold services in the county with any degree of regularity. At that time he lived at Faribault, and had charge of the mission south of that point to the state line. At first services were held in private houses, then in Dresser's & Butsch's halls until a church edifice was erected. In 1867 a church committee was organized to take steps for the erection of a building. It was composed

of M. J. Toher, president and treasurer; James Lonergan, Joseph Kaplan and Charles Schoen, of Owatonna, and William Leary, of Merton. The building was ready for occupancy on Christmas day, 1868. Three or four years later a parsonage was erected upon the same lot, which cost \$1,200. December 17, 1901, the old church was burned to the ground. It was at once rebuilt and was dedicated May 21, 1903. The present pastor is the Rev. John Pivo.

**School of the Sisters of St. Francis of Sales.** In connection with the history of the Catholic Church should be mentioned the educational institution which is located just north of their church edifice. This school was established at Owatonna in 1876, and the same year a three-story brick building, with a stone basement, was erected at a cost of \$8,500, upon a lot which was donated to the order by the Church of the Sacred Heart. The general management of the school is vested in the Order of Sisters, the general headquarters of which are at Joliet, Ill.; but they have also state headquarters at Rochester. The building is divided into school rooms, furnished with first-class school apparatus. The course of study here embraces all the ordinary branches, with the addition of music, drawing, painting, needlework and languages. To these, if desired, religious instruction is added. No teachers are placed here except those educated by the order and in their institutions, and they are especially fitted for and educated in the branches which they teach.

## CHAPTER XXV.

### STEELE COUNTY VILLAGES.

Bixby—Clinton Falls—Medford—Settlements and Hamlets—Anderson—Deerfield—Steele Center—Riverpoint—Merton—Berlin—Lemond—Meriden—Havana—Pratt—Sago — Hope Station—Former Villages—Elmwood—Dodge City—Adamsville—Somerset Village—Somerset Postoffice—Elmira Village—Aurora Postoffice—Oak Glen—Aurora Station—Postoffices—Railroads.

Aside from Owatonna, Blooming Prairie, Bixby and Ellendale, Steele county has several important trading points, among which Medford and Clinton Falls, settled in the early days, and the more recently settled Bixby take an important place.

#### BIXBY.

After the burning of Aurora Station, J. S. Bixby, commonly known as "Jake" Bixby, succeeded in having the railroad authorities select his land as a more advantageous location for a station. The station was accordingly opened in a box car, on a siding built on Mr. Bixby's farm. Gradually the place assumed importance, and it is now an extensive trading point for the farmers within a radius of many miles. Several fires have visited the place, but these have not dampened the ardor of the people. The village now consists of the general stores of Sam Ray and Anton J. Haberman, a railroad station, a postoffice, the blacksmith shop of Frank Styndl, the Oak Glen creamery, the Laird-Norton yards, of which George J. Johnson is manager, the B. B. Sheffield elevator, now owned by McLaughlin & O'Halloran, a boarding house kept by Mr. and Mrs. Martin Nelsen, a public hall; and, a short distance away, the Danish Lutheran Church, of which the Rev. M. O. Block is the pastor.

The Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church, of Blooming Prairie township, is located a short distance from the village of Bixby. It was organized in 1883, the first trustees being Hans Jensen, Nils Thimsen and Peter Petersen. The first pastor was the Rev. S. Strand, who was also the first president of the congregation. Soren Petersen was the first secretary and N. P. Nelsen, the first treasurer. For some years meetings were held

in the schoolhouse near Soren Petersen's place. The church was commenced in 1887, and finished and dedicated August 1 of the same year. The Rev. M. O. Block is the present pastor, the secretary is R. P. Nelsen; the treasurer, P. Petersen; and the trustees, Nels Larsen, S. Muller and George Johnson. Carl Rasmussen is deacon and James A. Rasmussen the Sunday school superintendent. The Sunday school is held regularly after each service. A young people's society will be organized this fall. A Ladies' Aid Society was organized in July, 1906, with the following officers: President, Mrs. Martin Nelsen; secretary, Mrs. Nels Nelsen; treasurer, Mrs. N. P. Nelsen. This society affords opportunity for social intercourse and has proven a strong factor in improving the church and keeping the building in repair, as well as in contributing generously toward the current expenses of the church. The present officers are: President, Mrs. Nels Nelsen; secretary, Mrs. Dick Nelsen; treasurer, Mrs. Christiana Johnson.—By Mrs. Martin Nelsen.

### CLINTON FALLS.

The village of Clinton Falls was laid out in the fall of 1855 by Dr. W. W. Finch. In the village plat a block was platted as a cemetery, free to everyone. It was not laid out in lots until after Dr. Finch left. In 1882 the Oak Hill Cemetery Association was formed and Dr. Finch deeded the block to them and it was then platted into lots. This was the first cemetery in the county. The first burial in it was of the remains of Daniel Morrison, who died in March, 1855. A postoffice was established here in the fall of 1856, with James Finch as postmaster. The first and only hotel ever established here was started by C. M. Williamson and T. Burns, in the summer of 1857. It was run by them for some time and was known as the Clinton House. The first religious society organized here was the Medford and Clinton Congregational Society, which was organized by Rev. O. A. Thomas.

The first store at Clinton Falls was started by Cyrus Williamson in 1857, with a small stock of groceries and notions. In 1861, Judge Green went to Milwaukee and secured what was then considered a large stock of goods, which was hauled to this place by teams from La Crosse, that being the nearest railway point. Later the store was owned by Dr. Finch. In 1856, Dr. Finch commenced building a dam across Straight river, for the purpose of securing sufficient water power to operate mill machinery, but one-half interest was to belong to the Williamson Brothers, who were to build a grist mill, and Dr. Finch a saw-mill, the grist mill to be completed within a year. When the



sawmill was put into operation, James Finch had a leg broken by a log rolling upon him. The Messrs. Williamson failing to get their grist mill completed early enough, Dr. Finch sent to Chicago and procured a set of small burrs, or what was called a "portable mill," and put it in operation in his sawmill. This was the first grist mill in this county. It was truly a Godsend to the settlers, who had frequently been under the necessity of resorting to their coffee mills to manufacture their meal for bread. Wheat thus ground was very appropriately called meal, as it could not be reduced fine enough to be called flour. Settlers used to come here from a distance of forty or fifty miles. Williamson Brothers pushed their work on their grist mill, and in 1857 Hon. G. W. Green purchased an interest, and later the whole mill, and it was pushed forward to completion under the superintendence of Moses Hutchinson, the only practical millwright this section of the country then afforded. D. R. Morrison was established as miller. Judge Green became sole proprietor and continued to operate the mill for many years.

A division of the Sons of Temperance was organized here in the summer of 1876, a charter being granted on the 27th of December, 1876. The charter members were Frank W. Sherman, Ella Boynton, Annie McCartney, Matie Brown, Matie Green, Nellie Knapp, Susan Larson, R. A. Shadick, M. Shadick, C. C. Finch, F. H. Church, F. R. Green, W. H. Boynton and Thomas Griffin. The organization was enthusiastically maintained for some time. After a time, however, the interest flagged and it was finally abandoned.

The village at present consists of a church, a store, a creamery and a mill, as well as several residences. A new dam has recently been built across the river and the village is enjoying a settled prosperity. C. M. Finch is the postmaster.

### MEDFORD.

The village of Medford is located on sections 8 and 9, in a beautiful valley through which flows the Straight river. The village was laid out in 1856, on land which had been entered as government land by Smith Johnson in 1853. The site was surveyed and platted by Rev. O. A. Thomas, for the proprietor, Smith Johnson, Sr. At a meeting of the settlers to consult upon a name wherewith to christen the town, Mr. Colling said that he had a son who was born on board the ship Medford and was named Medford in honor of the ship, and proposed that the town should be named Medford in honor of the boy, which proposition was unanimously adopted. The postoffice at Medford was established in the fall of 1855, with Smith Johnson, Sr., as the

first postmaster. This was the first postoffice established in what is now Steele county. The office was then kept at Mr. Johnson's residence, and he retained the position until the time of his death in 1860. Succeeding him in the early days, came the following postmasters: Edwin Drake, Albert McKinney, D. C. Hunkins, E. T. Howard, Orlando Johnson, L. S. Fowler, John Bailey and S. M. Freeman. The first frame house erected in Medford village was commenced by Mr. Kinyon, and completed in 1856 by Smith Johnson. It was run as a hotel until about 1867, by A. Stebbins. In 1856 the Abbott Brothers put up a steam sawmill and set it in operation, and it furnished most of the lumber for this section of the country. The mill was removed after running a year or two. The same year Messrs. Melvin, Rideout & Hall erected a fine steam sawmill a short distance below the village site. It continued in active operation until about 1860, when it was burned to the ground and has never been rebuilt.

The first store in the village was started in the summer of 1856 by Albert McKinney. He continued it until July, 1857, when it was rented by W. P. Francis & Co., who put in what was considered a heavy stock of goods in those days. They ran the store for a year or two and then exchanged it for real estate.

In the fall of 1858, Messrs. Sulley & Francis established a paper here, called the "Medford Valley Argus," removing the material from Owatonna. The publication of the paper was discontinued within a year. Mention of this is made in the general chapters of this work.

In the fall of 1867 an extensive grist mill was erected here by E. T. Howard. It was a valuable acquisition to this part of the county. It had a capacity of 150 barrels a day. Mr. Howard ran it for several years, and was succeeded by White & Baynon, and then Baynon & Mace. In September, 1880, the mill was destroyed by fire and the owners did not rebuild.

In the spring of 1872, Howard & Johnson erected a cheese factory, which was the forerunner of the present Farmers' Co-operative Creamery.

In July, 1866, the first train of cars was run through the village, on what has since become the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway. In 1901 the Cedar Rapids, Burlington & Northern, now the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific, came through.

The Methodist Church in the village was erected in 1875. The Congregational Church was erected in 1863-4.

On December 20, 1883, a destructive fire occurred in Medford village, destroying five stores and a doctor's office. The losses were reported to the country papers as follows: Captain

Heath, building and pool table, loss \$1,000; G. H. Butler, stock, loss \$550, insurance \$400; A. B. Bryant, drug store, loss \$800, insurance \$600; J. F. Curtis, drug store, loss \$1,500, insurance \$1,000; O. Lee, meat market, barber shop, doctor's office, store and hall, loss \$2,800, insurance \$1,350; John Baily's loss was about \$1,000 on store.

A Congregational society was organized at a meeting held at Clinton Falls, on September 13, 1856. Rev. O. A. Thomas was chosen moderator and secretary. The following named were present: Nathan and Phoebe Williamson, Minerva Finch, Helen M. Finch, Avery Adams, Emma T. Adams, David Sanborn, Joseph Sawyer, Anna C. Sawyer and Zachariah Scribner. At a meeting held in Clinton Falls on April 10, 1857, S. C. Williamson and Zachariah Scribner were appointed as a committee to hire a minister, and instructed to engage Rev. O. A. Thomas to preach at Medford and Clinton Falls, as the organization embraced both points. This plan was carried out and Nathan Williamson, of Clinton, and Joseph Sawyer, of Medford, were selected as deacons. In 1864 a church was erected at Medford, which was dedicated February 18, 1864.

Medford is now a prosperous trading point, and has two railroad stations, a postoffice, a fine creamery, several churches, and the usual stores, shops and the like. Recently the village has seen a revival of activity and in the past two or three years its business has increased considerably.

### SETTLEMENTS AND HAMLETS.

**Anderson**, also known as Lysne, the name of the postoffice, is well located on land originally owned by Thomas M. Anderson. It is seven miles southeast of Owatonna, on the C. & N. W. Railway, and is a hustling little settlement and trading point.

**Deerfield** is a discontinued postoffice twelve miles northwest of Owatonna and six miles west of Medford, which is its nearest shipping point.

**Steele Center.** A discontinued postoffice six miles south of Owatonna, the county seat, on the C. & N. W.; C., M. & St. P., and C., R. I. & P. railways.

**Riverpoint.** A discontinued postoffice ten miles south of Owatonna, the county seat.

**Merton.** A discontinued postoffice on the C. & N. W.; C., M. & St. P., and C., R. I. & P. railways.

**Berlin.** A discontinued postoffice nineteen miles southwest of Owatonna, the county seat. Mail by rural free delivery from Ellendale.

**Lemond.** A discontinued postoffice thirteen miles southwest

of Owatonna, the county seat. Mail by rural free delivery from Ellendale.

**Meriden.** A village on the C. & N. W. Railway, nine miles west of Owatonna, the county seat, and six miles east of Waseca, the banking point. Has a German Evangelical Church. Express, American. Telephone, Northwestern.

**Havana.** A postoffice on the C. & N. W. Railway, five miles southeast of Owatonna, the county seat and banking point. Express, American. Telephone, Northwestern.

**Pratt.** A postoffice on the C., M. & St. P. Railway, five miles east of Owatonna, the county seat and banking point. Express, Wells-Fargo & Co. The village is named from Horace Pratt.

**Saco.** A station on the C., R. I. & P. Railway, six miles southwest of Owatonna, the banking point and usual postoffice.

**Hope Station,** six miles north of Ellendale and ten miles south of Owatonna, on the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific, was established at the request of the farmers of this vicinity in 1906. The farmers appeared before the railroad and warehouse commission, August 8, 1905, and at that hearing the railroad agreed to establish the station at the location desired. It was opened the following spring. There is now a creamery, an elevator and a general store at this point.

### FORMER VILLAGES.

**Ellwood** village was platted in 1854, in the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 24, Clinton Falls township, by F. Wilber Fisk.

**Dodge City** was started in the northwest corner of Merton township, in 1856 by a Mr. Coburn who opened a small store there. The country was so sparsely settled that the store did not pay, and Mr. Coburn sold out to O. T. Jones, who after a while sold out the stock and closed the store.

**Adamsville** was the name originally given to the now discontinued postoffice of Berlin. The postoffice was established in 1856 with Hiram Pitcher as postmaster. Mr. Pitcher carried the mail from Owatonna, many times going on foot and in the winter using snow shoes. The name was changed to Berlin in 1857.

**Somerset Village.**—A village called Somerset was platted on section 20 in Somerset township, in 1856, by John and William Catlin and Charles Ellison. They divided a forty-acre tract into streets, lots and blocks. A store building was erected, but was never occupied as a store, and finally, after considerable



effort on the part of those interested, the project was abandoned and the site reverted to farm property.

**Somerset** postoffice was the name originally given to what afterward became River Point in Somerset township. A postoffice was established here in 1857, with Dr. Thomas Kenyon as postmaster. Other early postmasters were Charles Ellison, Mr. Bill, Dr. W. H. Twiford, Lewis Robinson, W. R. Catlin and D. M. Smith. The name was changed sometime in the late seventies, so far as can be ascertained.

**Elmira Village.**—In 1857 a village named Elmira was laid out on section 18 in Somerset near the township line by Thomas Twiford, who platted about eighty acres of land. A company was formed through which a dam was thrown across Straight river and a sawmill was erected. A frame hotel was erected, which in those days was considered a credit to the county. Mr. Twiford also established a store. An earnest and determined effort was made to start a town here, and considerable stress was laid upon the prospects of the embryo city as to county seat honors. Five or six thousand dollars was expended in placing the village on a good foundation; but as it failed to get the railroad, the proprietor gave up hope and finally vacated the plat.

**Aurora** postoffice was established in the southeast part of Aurora township at the residence of Charles Adsit in September, 1856. It was moved to Oak Glen station, (in what is now section 1, Blooming Prairie township) then back to Adsit's place and was finally located at Aurora station.

**Oak Glen** station was an old stage coach station on the mail line from Owatonna to Lansing. The mail contractor in the summer of 1856, erected a half-way station here and J. B. Perham divided the site into blocks, lots, alleys and streets. The postoffice, afterward located at Aurora station, was located in this settlement for a short time.

**Aurora Station** was an important point in Aurora township in the early days of the C. M. & St. P. Ry., and bade fair to become a large settlement. But it was wiped out by fire, and the present site of Bixby, selected as a more suitable location for the village between Owatonna and Blooming Prairie.

#### POSTOFFICES.

There are at present in Steele county, ten postoffices with postmasters as follows: Havana, Frank R. Herzberg; Pratt, Matilda S. Lieb; Bixby, Peter C. Johnson; Blooming Prairie, Theodore P. Fagre; Clinton Falls, Cyrus M. Finch; Lysne (An-

derson), Louis W. Thompson; Owatonna, James M. Diment; Meriden, Samuel E. Grandprey; Medford, W. A. Bailey.

### RAILROADS.

The cities and villages of Steele county, while depending to a large extent on the farmers for their trade, have nevertheless been made possible in a great degree by the railroads, though a few are off the route of the steam lines, and many were founded long before railroads in this county were deemed a possibility. The county is now crossed by three railroads, the Chicago & Northwestern, the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul and the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific.

**Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul.**—The Minneapolis & Cedar Valley Railroad Company was incorporated March 1, 1856, with an authorized capital stock of \$3,000,000 to construct a railroad from Minneapolis to a point of juncture with the Root River Valley & Southern Minnesota Railroad in Dakota county, from one to six miles from Mendota, and thence in a southerly direction to Faribault, thence through the valley of the Straight river to the southern boundary line of the territory. The company was also to have the right to build at any time, a line from the Mendota junction to St. Paul, also a like road to Hastings.

The summer previous, 1855, had witnessed a heavy increase in the population of Steele county. Railroad agitation had already begun in earnest, all who were interested here took an active part in working the matter up. Railroads, it seemed absolutely necessary to have and strenuous efforts were made to put the scheme in operation. Persons went to St. Paul to attend the sessions of the seventh territorial legislature and the charter above mentioned was granted, and the Minneapolis & Cedar Valley railroad was incorporated. Among the incorporators were: Franklin Steele, Isaac Atwater, D. M. Hanson, James F. Bradley, Ezra Abbott, R. P. Russell, A. M. Fridley, H. H. Sibley, John W. North, James Shields, Alexander Faribault, John C. Ide, Charles Jewett, F. W. Fisk, Benjamin L. Arnold, William F. Pettit, John H. Abbott, A. B. Cornell, A. Town, A. B. Vaugn, H. O. Billings, Orlando Wilder and others. Four men, Henry H. Sibley, of Mendota; Franklin Steele, of Minneapolis; James Shields, of Faribault; William F. Pettit, of Owatonna, and A. B. Vaugn, of Austin, were commissioned to open books and receive subscriptions. The commissioners succeeded in securing stock subscriptions to the amount of \$200,000. Owatonna, Faribault and Northfield were the most active in raising this amount of stock. The first meeting of the stockholders was held in Mendota in February, 1857, at which time the fol-

lowing named directors were elected: Ezra Abbott, of St. Anthony; Franklin Steele, of Ft. Snelling; H. H. Sibley, of Mendota; J. W. North, of Northfield; James Shields, of Faribault; William F. Pettit, of Owatonna, and A. B. Vaughn, of Austin; Ezra Abbott, treasurer; Franklin Steele, secretary, and J. H. Abbott, chief engineer. In June, Mr. Abbott and L. Kellett commenced surveying the route and by the close of September, the location was made and the estimates for the construction completed.

May 22, 1857, at a special session of the territorial legislature called by Governor Gorman by reason of the Congressional land grant, this road was one of four which received a grant of alternate sections designated by odd numbers, six miles in width, on each side of the roads and their branches. The companies were to pay 3 per cent of their gross earnings in lieu of all taxes and assessments, and the lands granted by Congress were to be exempt from all taxation until sold or conveyed by the companies. The corporations were generally given ten years to construct their respective roads. April 15, 1858, the legislature passed what was afterward known as the five million dollar loan, by which state bonds to that amount were to be issued for the benefit of the roads. Governor Sibley refused to issue these bonds, but afterward yielded to the Superior court. The amount issued to the Minneapolis & Cedar Valley road was \$600,000. But for various reasons the railroads were unable to dispose of these bonds to advantage, and therefore did not pay the interest, and work on the railroads was suspended. The controversy was finally ended by the state legislature in 1860, when it was voted that the state should enforce its liens and become owner of all franchise lands and the roadbeds of the defunct companies. The Minnesota Central Railroad company was incorporated in 1862 to follow the same route of construction originally laid out for the Minneapolis & Cedar Valley railroad. In 1865 Faribault was reached, and in August, 1866, trains were running through Steele county. In the meantime a line was in course of construction in Iowa, and the lines united at Rose Creek, near Austin, thus making this railroad the first to connect St. Paul with the east. In 1874 the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul adopted its present title, having in the meantime absorbed the Minnesota Central and many other lines.

**Chicago & Northwestern.**—The Transit Railroad Company was chartered March 3, 1855, with a capital of \$5,000,000 and the route designed for it by the act of May 22, 1857 was from Winona via St. Peter to a feasible point on the Bix Sioux river, south of the forty-fifth parallel of north latitude, also from

its terminus to any point on the Missouri river south of the same parallel of latitude. This act was passed at a special session called by Governor Gorman, by reason of the magnificent grant of land made by Congress that same year. The Transit company was one of the four railroads, which, by this act of the special territorial legislature of May 22, 1857, received alternate sections, designated by odd numbers, six miles in width on each side of the roads and their branches.

This road received \$500,000 in bonds under the five million dollar loan, but was unable to dispose of them to advantage, or to pay the interest, and forfeited its property to the state in 1860. The Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company, which was an outgrowth of the Transit line, was organized March 10, 1862, and completed its line from Winona to Rochester in 1864. Two years later in August it reached Owatonna. In 1867 the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Company became interested in this line and under date of June 7, 1900, acquired it by purchase.

**The Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific.**—The Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railway Company reached Owatonna from Albert Lea, June 13, 1900. It later pushed its way north and was in operation through Faribault to the Twin Cities in January, 1902. June 15, 1903, the line was acquired by the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific.

**Red Wing, Duluth & Southern.**—In 1887, the city of Owatonna voted bonds to the amount of \$40,000 to assist in the construction of a line which was to run from Albert Lea, through Owatonna, thence to Red Wing, and northward. This line was never constructed, and the bonds were never issued.

**The Dan Patch Air Line**, designed eventually to become a part of a system connecting the Twin Cities with Chicago by electric line, has been surveyed through Steele county and many of the people of the county have subscribed to its stock.

## OWATONNA FIRE DEPARTMENT

The fire department of Owatonna was organized in 1875 by the election of M. R. Strong, chief, and I. W. Burch, secretary. Charles H. Randall was the second chief, serving from 1877 to 1879, at which latter date C. W. Hadley was appointed, serving until 1884. The membership fee of this company was \$1 to join the fire department, and all members were to run to the fires without pay. They were also to take charge of their own fire apparatus, which consisted of two eighty-gallon chemical four-wheel wagons, weighing about two tons each, which the city had purchased of the Champion Fire Extinguisher Company, of Louisville, Ky., paying \$2,800 on board the boat at Louisville,



Ky. Upon the arrival of these fire extinguishers, they made a test on a burning building situated on South Elm street. In making the run, a man was killed, the victim being a stranger who, while helping to draw the apparatus, tripped and fell in such a way that a wheel passed over him. This apparatus was used to good advantage, and saved thousands of dollars' worth of property until the present waterworks were constructed in 1890.

The fire department was disbanded in 1884, by a resolution of the city council. S. S. Green was then instructed to organize a fire department, which was to be composed of not more than forty members, and for compensation they were to receive twenty-five cents for each meeting, and \$1 for each member who worked at a fire, the member so working to report at the fire house after the fire fighting was done.

At the reorganization in 1884, S. S. Green became the chief. In 1886 he was followed by C. E. Luce. In 1887, E. M. Twiford was appointed and has served continuously with the exception of the years 1899 and 1900 when Ovid Wood took his place, Mr. Twiford being mayor of the city those two years. The presidents have been as follows: 1884, H. Luers; 1886, E. M. Twiford; 1887, S. S. Green; 1890, C. E. Luce; 1892, William Gausewitz; 1893, L. B. Fenner; 1895, William Gausewitz; 1898, L. B. Fenner; 1904, L. F. Hammel, who is still serving. The secretaries have been: 1884, C. E. Luce; 1886, Benjamin E. Darby; 1890, Walter Amos; 1894, E. A. Brown; 1896, J. P. Thon; 1898, Charles J. Servatius, who is still serving.

The present officers are: President, L. F. Hammel; secretary, Charles J. Servatius; treasurer, John Thon; chief, E. M. Twiford; assistant, F. G. Schuman; foreman hose cart No. 1, R. H. Jahreiss; foreman of hose cart No. 2, William Essler; foreman of the hook and ladder company, John Thon.

There are at present twenty-five members of the fire department, one of whom is employed continuously and six of whom sleep in the fire house at the City Hall. There is also a branch fire house on Rose street, between Oak and Cedar. The apparatus consists of a combination hose and chemical wagon, two hose carts, a hook and ladder, and other equipment. The chemical wagon has a capacity of fifty-two gallons and has about 200 pounds pressure. There are 16 fire boxes in the city and 125 hydrants, the water having a pressure of about 72 pounds, gravity, in the business districts. The hose equipment consists of about 2,800 feet.

**The Owatonna Fire Department Relief Association** was organized April 5, 1895, and has been a most important factor in the civic growth of the city. Starting with \$11 in its treasury, it has contributed over \$11,000 to the city, has cared for its sick

and disabled members, and now has over \$2,500 in its treasury. The story of its part in the building of the City Hall is told elsewhere. The third floor, which was completed by the association, is a tribute to its generosity and artistic sense, the mural decorations alone costing nearly \$2,500, and the electrical fittings over \$500. The present officers of the association are: President, L. F. Hammel; vice president, Henry Sanders; secretary, Charles J. Servatius; treasurer, John Thon; trustees, F. G. Schuman, Andrew Erdman, E. H. Lipert and J. C. Jahreiss.

## CHAPTER XXVI

### POSTAL HISTORY

**Early Stage and Mail Routes in Steele County—Owatonna Post-office—Postmasters—Locations—Rural Routes—Free Delivery—New Building—Present Force—Receipts.—Compiled With the Assistance of J. M. Diment.**

During the winter of 1854-55 Congress, for the purpose of aiding in the establishment of western mail routes, granted for that purpose one section of land for every twenty miles of route operated, under certain conditions. Of course, the stage companies at once prepared to take advantage of this, and stations were established on these sections, twenty miles apart. The first stage run through Owatonna was from St. Paul south. This was late in 1855. Owatonna was the terminus for a time. A post-office had been established at Medford, but the mail sacks were not opened at Owatonna until later.

In the winter of 1855-1856, or late in the fall of 1855, as is claimed by some of the old settlers, stages commenced running west from Winona carrying mail on west to St. Peter. The first mail bag that went to the latter place contained one letter of greeting from the postmaster at Winona to the one at St. Peter. Stages were not really put on for passenger travel until 1856, and after that they were run regularly. The manager was a man named Lord, who lived in Winona and who, as a rule, drove the stage himself. The route extended from Winona west, through Owatonna and other points to Travers des Sioux or St. Peter. The first stage arrived here from the east during the last week in September, 1855.

A station was located on section 6, near the northwest corner of Owatonna township. Stages were run weekly to St. Peter and return to Winona.

In 1856 M. O. Walker, succeeding Lord, became proprietor of the stage line, and this name became a familiar one in almost every settlement in the Northwest. This stage line continued in operation until the railroad reached Owatonna in 1866, and then moved westward, followed closely by the lines of railway. Walker at one period, in 1857-1858, became badly involved in debt. He owned many different lines of stages, and, as the financial crash, which came at about this time, checked travel,

many of these lines did not pay expenses. Often the agents or drivers were unable to pay bills for repairs and keeping contracted along the route, and it seems several of this character were run up in Owatonna. Finally papers were got out and placed in the hands of the sheriff, who was instructed to attach Walker's horses as they drove through, and this procedure was repeated many times, the sheriff often having from ten to fifteen of Walker's horses in his charge. Yet it was sometimes a difficult matter to attach the teams. The stages carried United States mail, and so long as a mail-sack remained in the wagon, the sheriff dare not attach the team for fear of violating the United States statutes in detaining the mails or obstructing the route. Ordinarily the sheriff would stand behind the corner of the house, and as soon as the sack was carried into the postoffice he would walk out and claim the team. The carriers got so they would watch for this and would get a sack on just as soon as one was taken off. Walker would invariably pay his bills after a short delay, and then matters would move on smoothly until the next creditor would swear out an attachment. In 1859 Nichols & Wheeler became proprietors of the stage line. They continued it for about four years, when it was purchased by Burbank & Co., who operated it until the railroad came in 1877. A north and south stage line was also put in operation at an early date. With the beginning of 1856 stages arrived regularly on this line, which was then operated by Brackett & Co. Williamson & Cotter succeeded them and operated the line until the railroad was built through. Philo Finch, of Clinton Falls, was one of the drivers on this route for Williamson & Cotter. They also had a station every twenty miles, located on the lands which they claimed under the grant. They located a town called Oak Glen in Steele county, on section 1, in what is now Blooming Prairie township, and laid plans for the erection of a city. This line continued in active operation until the railway was put through in 1866-1867. The proposed city never succeeded in getting a fair start, and when the railroad reached this locality the village of Blooming Prairie was laid out on section 25, in the same township, and Oak Glen became a thing of the past.

In 1856 a mail route was established from Owatonna to Geneva, and E. C. Stacy was the first to operate it. Nathaniel Winship next got the contract and continued to run it for four years. The mail was carried sometimes with a buggy, again on horseback and frequently on foot. Hugh Murray is remembered as having footed it across the country with the mail on his back.

As early as 1857 a mail route was established from Red Wing to Blue Earth City, and Philo Hawes became the carrier. Part of the time he was in company with a partner under the firm



name of Cotter & Hawes. This was continued until about the time the railroads were completed to this point.

The following item appears in the issue of the Owatonna plaindealer, September 22, 1864:

"Burbank & Co. have decided to put on the road between this place and Rochester, next Monday, two daily lines of stages each way, owing to the great increase of travel. Last Monday afternoon there were twenty-seven persons desiring passage east. Nineteen got on one coach and the rest hired a livery, but this is not an unusual occurrence. The company have the best of accommodations on the road for the convenience of the traveling public."

**The Owatonna Postoffice** was established in 1855, with S. B. Smith as postmaster. Up to that time the name of the town had been spelled "Owatonia," but at this time the "i" was changed to an "n," and the orthography became the same as it is to-day. M. A. Daily was the second postmaster, and he was succeeded in turn by John N. Kelley, about 1858; William Wadsworth about 1862, and Twiford E. Hughes about 1866. April 7, 1870, E. Easton took possession of the office and remained until January 8, 1876, when he was succeeded by Charles S. Crandall. Mr. Crandall held the office until April 10, 1884, when he was relieved by Lewis L. Wheelock, who was postmaster for some time.

In 1888 Amos Cogswell was appointed, and he was followed in 1892 by C. E. Luce. M. J. Toher was appointed in 1896 and the present postmaster, J. M. Diment, was appointed in 1900. Before Mr. Crandall's administration the postoffice was located on the north side of Bridge street, on practically the site of the southern half of the present quarters. Mr. Crandall removed it to his store, on the present site of 108 West Broadway. When a syndicate, composed of L. L. Wheelock, E. M. Morehouse, G. F. Albertus, W. R. Kinyon and H. H. Rosebrock, erected the present building, extending from Bridge street to West Broadway, the office was moved to its present quarters.

Congress has passed an act providing for the erection of a \$58,000 postoffice building, on the corner south of the beautiful building of the National Farmers' Bank. The appropriation will doubtless be passed at the next session.

This office was made a money-order office in August, 1866. The first three money orders were purchased by Twiford E. Hughes, Alverson & Graham and Dr. A. S. Mygatt.

The city free delivery service was established July 16, 1900. The carriers were: Andrew J. Parolik, Harry H. Luce and Charles G. Boyer. Arthur H. Lawson was sub carrier. The service was extended and an additional route assigned for service, March 2, 1903, with H. W. Vinton was the new carrier.

The present carrier force consists of Amos B. Colquhoun, Bertton A. Deviny, John A. Diehl, and William J. McDonald. Milton A. Rions is the substitute.

The rural free delivery came into existence in Steele county, February 1, 1902, with the establishment of routes 1, 2, 3 and 4 out of Owatonna. Routes 5 and 6 were established February 2, 1903. Route 7 was established July 15, 1904; route 8, June 1, 1905; routes 9 and 10, November 16, 1906. On this date, November 16, 1906, there was an entire reorganization of the other eight routes out of Owatonna, and what is known as a complete county rural free delivery service fully established. The carriers at the present time are as follows: No. 1, T. J. Rions; No. 2, H. H. Holmes; No. 3, Fred W. Kinyon; No. 4, William Baldwin; No. 5, William Stransky; No. 6, George W. McCrady; No. 7, F. W. Schultz; No. 8, H. A. McCrady; No. 9, Elias Elias; No. 10, Walter W. Reed.

The Owatonna postoffice force is at present organized as follows: Postmaster, J. M. Diment; assistant postmaster, J. W. Andrews; mailing clerk, George C. Toher; money order clerk, Edward W. Springer; general delivery clerk, Charles F. Rypka; stamping clerk, Jay S. Whitman; substitute clerk, Harry C. McCrady.

The fiscal year at the Owatonna postoffice extends from July 1 to June 30. Since 1887 the annual postage receipts have been as follows: 1887, \$5,793.89; 1888, \$6,118.38; 1889, \$6,214.28; 1890, \$6,936.53; 1891, \$7,105.64; 1892, \$7,318.63; 1893, \$8,348.19; 1894, \$8,604.49; 1895, \$9,368.07; 1896, \$9,686.96; 1897, \$10,693.01; 1898, \$11,166.78; 1899, \$11,229.77 1900, \$13,175.51; 1901, \$12,334.15; 1902, \$13,742.45; 1903, \$14,484.41; 1904, \$15,086.08; 1905, \$16,719.04; 1906, \$15,908.91; 1907, \$17,645.76; 1908, \$19,622.29; 1909, \$21,271.45, thus bringing up the report to July 1, 1910.

Other postoffices are mentioned in connection with their respective localities.

## CHAPTER XXVII

### BLOOMING PRAIRIE VILLAGE.

**Modern Blooming Prairie—Its Beauties, Situation and Advantages—Coming of the Railroad—Early beginnings—Municipal Improvements—Park, Waterworks, Sewer—Fraternalities—Churches—Leading Stores—Elevators, Mill and Creamery—Schools—Grain Industry—Edited by John C. Brainerd.**

Blooming Prairie village ranks next to Owatonna in size and importance in the county, its population numbering about one thousand souls. Its progress since its founding in 1867 has been steady, and its situation gives foundation to the belief that the growth will be more rapid. It receives trade from four counties, and is not in too close proximity to either Owatonna or Austin. It has a well laid out appearance, a park which is developing new beauties with the passing years, a fine system of waterworks, a short sewer, good schools, and several excellent churches. Its business men are progressive and prosperous, and have taken an interest in the welfare of the village. Good stores, a newspaper, two good banks and a fine hotel all add to the advantages and comfort of life in this locality.

Blooming Prairie has a population of about 1,000 people. It contains five churches, a graded and high school, two banks, one creamery, three grain elevators, one newspaper, a waterworks system, a telephone company, a private sewer system, electric lights, a railroad station, express and telegraph service, a mill, a foundry and factory, a live stock yard, two lumber yards, cement sidewalks, a fine park, four blacksmith shops, four physicians, one dentist, one livery, one feed stable, one draying establishment one undertaker, one real estate office, five general stores, three lodge rooms, one opera hall, a tow mill, a feed mill, two meat markets, a hotel, three restaurants, two millinery rooms, three painting and paper hanging establishments, two hardware stores, a furniture store and two drug stores, three agricultural, implement and vehicle dealers, a men's tailor, four saloons, a cigar factory and a photograph gallery.

Following is a brief business directory of Blooming Prairie. Physicians, B. Melby, E. H. Cooley, H. G. Wood, J. W. Warren. General stores, Alliance Cash Co., Blooming Prairie Mercantile Co. (also a men's furnishing store), P. H. Dock, A. A. Hrubetz,

Joseph Ruzek. Hardware and agricultural implements, Ed. Morton, Bell & Herron. Furniture and agricultural implements, L. S. Ulland; druggists, Olson & Fjelstad, E. W. Cooley. Feed mill, Susan Johnson. Cigar maker, Thos. M. Bruzek. Blacksmiths, T. S. Morton & Son, Walter Rasmussen, Christ Lund, J. A. Schisler. Tow mill (branch), Union Fibre Co., of Winona. Men's tailor, Christ Mortenson. Newspaper, Blooming Prairie Times. Meat markets, R. H. Johnson, B. Betlach. Hotel, the West. Photograph gallery, Fairbanks Bros. Restaurants, W. C. Peterson, L. E. Zweiner, Thomas Keefe. Milliners, Blooming Prairie Mercantile Co., the Campbell sisters. Painting and paper hanging, Blooming Prairie Paint Co., John R. Harty and L. Erickson. Other are mentioned in detail in the general history of the village.

The incorporate limits of Blooming Prairie includes sections 24, 25 and 36 and half of sections 23, 26 and 35 in township 105, range 19. About 40 acres was included in the original plat. Part of that tract has been abandoned, a part replatted, and several additions have been made.

The first buildings erected on the present site of Blooming Prairie village were the shacks for the men employed in constructing the C. M. & St. P. Ry. About this time C. C. Hartley moved a blacksmith shop from the country to the present site of the village, and a shack was also built probably as a lumber office. The first frame house erected was the railroad station. The second was the residence of C. C. Hartley, long known as the Western house, and Christ Vollhardt built a place that was used as a residence, place of refreshment and hotel, being known as Union hotel.

Christ Vollhart has lived in Blooming Prairie during practically its entire existence. He came here early in 1867, on a construction train, and erected hotel. At that time there was here the railroad station, the boarding house or hotel of C. C. Hartley as well as the blacksmith shop of C. C. Hartley. The first birth in the village was probably that of his son, Henry Vollhardt, in 1868, and the first death was doubtless that of his daughter, Louise, who died in August, 1868, at the age of four years.

Among the prominent citizens of Blooming Prairie village and vicinity, whose names should be preserved for future generations are the following: A. B. Clark, C. W. Gardner, L. Ellington, R. I. Fuller, E. B. Sproud, J. N. Dunton, Octave Garriepy, Frank C. Brown, George A. Peterson, John A. McConnell, J. C. Brainerd, Joseph A. McConnell, John G. Lennon, C. C. Hartley, Thomas Feeney, O. A. Veblin, Norman Evans, G. Jensen, Aseph Mayo, M. M. Guthrie, Ole Ecker, L. E. Hatch, Theo.



L. Hatch, J. Palmer Johnson, C. H. Williams, A. Olson, C. D. Giddings, E. Morton, T. S. Morton, George H. Johnson, E. H. Wheeler, Christ Vollhardt, Aaron Pettie, A. J. Pettie, C. B. Pettie, Harrison Pettie, D. T. Pettie, I. C. Pettie, Dr. Saulsbury, Thomas Bray, J. A. Beatty, C. E. Hancock, A. Colquhoun, George M. Topliff, Jos. C. Carey, Peter Haley, Joseph Branning, Ira Foster, H. A. Gleeson, Alec Hughes, Charles D. Giddings, George W. Porter, Jacob Ryder, Charles E. Johnson, Thomas B. Ingersoll, A. G. Ingersoll, J. C. Rae, Charles Rae, Michael Gleen, Edward Burke, C. H. Scott, Christ Calusen, William Cashman and H. N. Thurston.

The village of Blooming Prairie is situated in the southeast corner of the township of the same name, its limits adjoining the counties of Dodge, Mower and Freeborn. It occupies the most elevated portion of Steele county and the highest plain in southern Minnesota, the elevation being about 1,300 feet above the sea level. A short distance east of the village is the source of the Cedar and Zumbro rivers, and the Straight and Turtle rivers rise nearby to the west. The village was very appropriately named, as its site is on one of the most beautiful prairies in the west which was originally clothed with a profusion of wild flowers changing in their kind and color from the white and blue of early spring to gold and purple of the autumn day.

The rails of the Minnesota Central Railway, now a portion of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, were laid through here in the summer of 1867, and a station and a postoffice opened both named Blooming Prairies. The first station agent was J. C. Noteman and the first postmaster, Chas. W. Gardner. About this time the lots and streets were surveyed and staked. The tract being a portion of the original land grant to the railway company and was purchased by Selah Chamberlain, of Cleveland, and George E. Skinner, of Faribault, who shortly afterward formally recorded the plat.

The tributary country is one of the most fertile in southern Minnesota, and as it was fast settling up the town speedily became an important trading point and was soon one of the large primary grain markets. The first stock of merchandise was placed on sale by A. C. Hawley, generally known as Captain Hawley, in a small tent near the present depot building with L. Ellington employed as clerk. It is reported a heavy storm occurred soon after the grand opening and many unprescribed mixtures of tobacco, fish, starch, coffee, etc., were made. The remaining merchandise was removed to a small warehouse on the railway grounds south of the depot, one part of which was used for handling grain, the postoffice was also kept in this building. Mr. Gardner purchased the stock of merchandise a few

months afterwards and removed it and the postoffice to a building which he erected in 1868, on block 7, opposite the depot, and which is a portion of the building still standing there.

In the spring of 1868 one of the first store buildings was put up by E. B. Sprant, on block 7, and in which he conducted a mercantile business for some two years when he sold out to J. N. Dunton & Son. In 1867 the first hotel was opened by Chris Vollhardt and operated as such for some years and called the Union Hotel. The first blacksmith shop was opened for business by C. C. Hartley on lot 12, block 13, in 1867. Mr. Hartley also erected a hotel in the same year in block 13, which was long known as the Western house. In 1870 Chas. W. Gardner sold his mercantile business to Mr. Octave Garriepy, of Minneapolis, and Mr. Ellington, who was in the employ of Mr. Gardner, was appointed postmaster. Mr. Garriepy continued in the mercantile business until the year, 1876, when he returned to Canada, his native home, where he now resides.

In 1870 E. H. Wheeler purchased a building on block 6, and opened a blacksmith shop, employing T. S. Morton; the next year Mr. Morton succeeded to the business and removed his shop the following year to lot 1, block 8. The building has been repaired and additions made, but the old building still stands and Mr. Morton still works at the old place where he has for these many years conducted a successful business. For some time his son, Byron H., has been associated with him in the blacksmith and machine business.

In 1871 Lewis Ellington and F. C. Brown opened a small stock in block 14, on Fourth and the postoffice. Mr. Ellington, postmaster, was removed to this building. Mr. Brown retired from the business after a few months and Mr. Ellington united his business with that of Geo. A. Peterson, who had previously operated a store in Austin, but sent his stock here in 1872, doing business under the name of G. A. Peterson & Co., and under this firm name the business was conducted. Mr. Ellington retired in a few months and Mr. Peterson became sole proprietor and continued in business for some time when he sold to J. A. McConnell.

**Municipal Improvements.**—The village of Blooming Prairie was politically a portion of the township and the physical improvements were few for some years; the streets were ungraded; the soil was beautifully black, the road and bridge fund very small and the street in wet seasons almost impassible. A few boards were laid down for sidewalks in some favored spots and removed from place to place as occasion seem to require. The walks on Main street were very individual in character, some were on a level with the street and some from one to three

fect higher, each business place had a walk for its own accommodation, a few connecting steps and some connecting planks made walking much safer in the streets, especially in the dark.

During the legislative session of 1873 and 1874 the act incorporating the village was passed. At the first charter election in March, T. S. Morton was chosen president of the council; trustees, G. A. Peterson, H. A. Gleason and Octave Garriepy; recorder, J. C. Brainerd; justice of the peace, Peter Haley; constable, J. C. Rea; W. Bowman, assessor. Village improvements were now the order of the day, the grade of the streets was established, sidewalks brought to grade, hitching posts taken out of Main street, all with many a protest. A parcel of land, centrally located, was purchased and a voting place and a lock-up were erected, on this site now stands the two-story brick building fitted for a voting place, jail and storage for fire apparatus.

The village plot was originally bare of trees. Considerable interest was soon displayed by all in planting trees on the streets and lots, which are now so beautifully and abundantly shaded.

In August, 1889, a fire broke out in the hay mow of the large barn on the Skinner farm, adjoining the village; the villagers were very active in their efforts to subdue and control the fire, and Mr. Skinner, as evidence of his appreciation of their good work, presented the village with a block of ground for park purposes. This was promptly planted with trees, mostly maple, elm, bass and birch. They have made a rapid growth and are the foundation of a beautiful park.

The present officers of the village are as follows: President, James Bergin; trustees, E. W. Cooley, A. O. Bensen, G. F. Hyde; recorder, A. A. Peterson; treasurer, T. C. Cashman; justice, M. Guthrie; marshal, John Driscoll; board of health, B. Melby, A. Fairbanks and John Driscoll; school board, A. Solberg, Alex. Fjelstad, E. A. Gilmore, C. W. Ricketts, A. E. Johnson.

**Blooming Prairie Village Hall.**—This neat edifice was erected during the administration of M. Guthrie as president of the village. The lower floor is devoted to the fire apparatus and the jail, while the upper floor contains the village auditorium and the council chambers. The fire apparatus, housed in the lower part of the building, consists of two hose carts, a hook and ladder truck, a chemical apparatus and a hand pump. The fire department consists of twenty-four members and was organized June 29, 1905. A. O. Bensen is the chief.

**Schools.**—The first school building was located on lot 7, block 4, a site donated by Mr. Skinner to the district. A few years later the location being desired by a church site an exchange was made with Mr. Skinner for a much larger portion of

land, and the school house sold to him. This building was removed to lot 7, block 13, where it is now occupied. On the new site a substantial brick veneered school building of four rooms was erected in 1876, this is still occupied and in good condition. In 1899 the village school district erected a beautiful eight-room brick building on a site north of the old grounds. This building is well equipped with library and laboratory. The school grounds complete comprise a fine tract of ten lots adjoining the park. The first teacher in the old school building was J. K. Bucklin. Professor Fate was the first principal in the four-room building, and L. H. Isaacs, now superintendent of schools, in South St. Paul, was the first principal in the new high school building.

**Postoffice.**—The Blooming Prairie postoffice, of which Theo. P. Fagre has been postmaster for four years, does an annual business of nearly \$4,000, maintains five rural routes and gives the village and surrounding country most excellent service. The postmaster is assisted by Miss Florence Keefe, and S. S. Siverson has also been sworn in as clerk. The rural carriers are H. L. Wheeler, Ira J. Smith, Carl G. Jolson, Christ. E. Weger and John Gorvin. The office was established in 1868 with C. W. Gardner as postmaster. He was succeeded by L. Ellington, who served until July, 1876, when A. Mayo was appointed and served until 1886, when M. Guthrie took office. He served two terms and was followed by John G. Lennon. Then came Mr. Lennon's bondsmen, and in 1898 W. L. Buckson assumed office. He was succeeded in 1906 by the present postmaster.

**Sewer.**—An embryo sewer, with about ten connections, has been laid in Blooming Prairie by Albert A. Peterson. The outlet is in a marsh below the village where a private sewer owned by the West hotel property, had its outlet. This system will doubtless, in time, result in a municipal sewer.

**Blooming Prairie Cemetery.**—The cemetery, which adjoins the St. Columbanus cemetery and lies about half a mile south of the platted portion of the village, was early set aside for cemetery purposes by George E. Skinner. April 4, 1892, a number of citizens decided to form an association, and contributed a sufficient amount to purchase from Mr. Skinner for \$125 such lots as were not already occupied, in the portion not reserved for the Catholic people. The organizers, and contributors were T. S. Morton, Ele Ille, A. Palmer Smith, G. H. Johnson, H. Noble, T. R. Symes, C. E. Hancock, R. I. Fuller, E. H. Wheeler, J. C. Brainerd and C. B. Pettie. The present officers of the association are: President and actuary, T. S. Morton; secretary and treasurer, J. C. Brainerd. There is also a board of directors.



## GRAIN INDUSTRY.

Grain raising was for several years the principal industry of the farmers of this vicinity, and buying and handling of grain was a large trade interest. The first buyers were A. C. Hawley, Ennis Bros., M. Johnson and C. W. Gardner, who handled grain in the warehouses erected near the depot.

Messrs. Bassett, Huntting & Co., of McGregor, Ia., soon built a warehouse, J. C. Noteman, Chris Vollhardt, L. Ellington and J. C. Rea buying grain for them at different times, this firm was the first to erect an elevator here which they did in 1875.

W. H. Valleau bought grain here in a warehouse north of the depot for a couple of years, Geo. Valleau and A. H. Wiggin were employed by him. Late in 1875 Mr. Chas. Whitton, who was a grain buyer for some five previous years, built an elevator at the foot of Fourth street; this elevator was sold to G. W. Porter in the spring of 1877 and burned the same fall. On its site H. W. Pratt & Co. built at once; this was operated for some years by Mr. Porter and afterwards by M. H. Hitchcock; after some transfer it was sold in 1895 to the Farmers' Elevator Co., who lost it by fire and built a new elevator which they still own and operate. F. J. Quinn, now of Colorado, was in charge of the Farmers' Elevator for a time and was succeeded by J. R. Edmond, who is their present buyer.

In 1875 M. M. Guthrie, formerly of Dubuque, Ia., was placed in charge of their elevator by Bassett Huntting & Co. The following year he acquired an interest in the building and the business. During most of the succeeding years Mr. Guthrie has purchased grain at this point, and at present is owner of one of the elevators.

The grain receipts were the largest in 1875, 1876, 1877, when they were nearly half a million bushels annually.

**Farmers' Elevator Co.**—This company was incorporated in 1905, by the election of the following officers: President, Thomas Herron; vice president, C. E. Symes; secretary, G. A. Peterson; treasurer, H. A. Peterson; directors, O. G. Anderson, Soren Miller and John G. Johnson. The company purchased the old Pratt elevator, and placed F. J. Quinn in charge. In March, 1907, the building was destroyed by fire. The business was continued in a rented warehouse, and a new elevator was at once erected. For several years past, James Edmonds has been the buyer. The firm is capitalized at \$5,000 with about 180 shareholders. The business amounts to over 100,000 bushels annually. The present officers are the same as above, with John Jurgenson, Peter Hanson and O. G. Anderson as directors.

**Lumber Yards.**—The sawed lumber for the buildings erected

in the village prior to the building of the railway was hauled by team mostly from Owatonna. When the railway was completed Minneapolis and other river points became the natural wholesale supply market for the territory. A Mr. Searles, of Owatonna, put in a small stock of lumber in 1867 and erected one of the first buildings, which was used as an office and dwelling, and situated on lot 1, block 13. Mr. Aaron Pettie & Son soon succeeded in the business, which they continued until 1872. In 1871 J. C. Brainerd established a lumber business and in the following year Chas. Whitton became a partner. For several years the firm of Brainerd & Whitton controlled the lumber and coal trade and were succeeded in 1878 by Brainerd & Gardner. In 1882 Mr. Gardner retired from the firm and J. C. Brainerd conducted the business until 1902, when he sold to the Northwest Lumber Co. A. Solberg opened a yard here in 1892, and in 1893, O. A. Vebelin having acquired an interest, the firm became Solberg & Vebelin and continued under that style until 1900, when Mr. Vebelin retired, his interest having been purchased by Geo. A. Peterson, P. A. Peterson and Thos. A. Helvig. The firm name was changed to Solberg & Co., and in 1893 they incorporated under the style of A. Solberg Lumber Co. Mr. Vebelin in 1900 opened a new yard, which was also taken over by the Northwest Lumber Co. in 1902. Later this corporation sold all their lumber and coal interests in this place to the Laird-Norton Yards and Hayes-Lucas Lumber Co., both Winona firms. At the present time the latter firm and A. Solberg Lumber Co. are the only firms doing a lumber business at the station.

**Blooming Prairie Separator Creamery Co.**—Dairying has been one of the principal industries in this vicinity for several years. Both wild and tame grasses are luxuriant in growth; the water is plenty, easily obtainable and good. The climate fine and all conditions are of the best to promote the healthy condition of neat cattle. In the early years of the country butter was made at the country homes, under conditions which made the product a variable one and the price in general was very low. With the introduction of factory system of manufacture and especially since the advent of the milk separator there have been many radical changes and great improvement in methods.

In 1885 the first move was made here for the establishment of a butter factory, a parcel of land was procured in the village by a few representative dairymen and business men and a contract was made with P. O'Reily, of Rawler, Ia., to erect a building. The gathered cream custom was then in vogue.

For a few years several changes were made and some of the efforts were partially unsuccessful, but generally moving toward

success. Mr. O'Reily was succeeded by a local corporation, the Minnesota Creamery Co. and Potter Lucas Co. followed. The principal and permanent change came when in 1892 a co-operative creamery company was formed under the style of the Blooming Prairie Separator Creamery Association. The first officers were: E. Morton, president; N. N. Hagna, treasurer; G. A. Peterson, secretary; directors, C. B. Peterson, P. A. Peterson, Ben Benson, C. E. Symes and Ole A. Anderson. In 1897 the present commodious brick building was erected and the business has increased from year to year until the patrons number several hundred and the product manufactured \$90,000 annually. The present officers are E. Morton, president; Ben Benson, treasurer; John Jurgenson, secretary; N. N. Hagna, Wm. Ferrington, H. Noble, Alvin Ille, Ole Embrickson and P. P. Haugen directors.

**L. G. Campbell Milling Co.**—The first flouring mill in Blooming Prairie was erected in 1875, by Messrs. H. Hegele & Co., but was burned the following year, having in the meantime handled 175,000 bushels of wheat, most of which was flour. The present flour mill was erected 1892 by A. S. and L. G. Campbell, who at that time were proprietors of a mill at Austin. In 1895, L. G. Campbell became sole owner and enlarged the plant. In 1904, electrical apparatus was installed, which furnishes lights for the village streets, business houses and residences.

**The Steele County Telephone Co.** operates in Blooming Prairie, Ellendale, Geneva, Newry, Lansing, Bixby and Union, having 360 instruments in use. It was started in the fall of 1900, and the service was first put in operation August 1, 1901. At that time the officers were: President, O. P. Rask; vice president, A. A. Peterson; secretary and treasurer, S. A. Rask. The present officers are: President, A. A. Peterson; secretary and treasurer, S. A. Rask. These two gentlemen and their wives constituted the board of directors.

## HOTELS.

**West Hotel.**—This popular hostelry was the result of the desire of Halvor J. Hanson to open a first-class hotel in this village. G. A. Peterson owned a desirable location, and a company was accordingly formed, consisting of O. A. Veblen, H. A. Peterson, G. A. Peterson and H. J. Hanson. The building, a three-story brick structure, was completed and opened in the spring of 1899 with H. J. Hanson as manager. After some years, Mr. Veblen sold his interest to J. C. Brainerd. Later the property was disposed of to the Sylvester Brothers of St. Paul. Three years ago the place was rented by S. H. Keeling, the present proprietor. The Sylvester Brothers disposed of the property to C. S. Nelson,

of Minneapolis, who sold it to E. W. Bunker, of Spooner, Wis., the present owner.

**Union Hotel.**—This was the first hotel in Blooming Prairie, and was erected by Christ Vollhardt in 1867. The building was afterward sold to Andrew Pettie, and was occupied as a residence and by George Camp's harness shop, when it was destroyed by fire in February, 1889. Among the managers of the hotel were the Messrs. Vollhardt, Dunton, Hartley and A. Pettie.

**Western House.**—This building was erected before the Union Hotel by C. C. Hartley, but did not open its doors as a hotel until a short time after the opening of the Union Hotel. The Messrs. Hartley, Dutcher, Vollhardt, Carey and Guthrie were among the proprietors. The building was destroyed by fire, January 10, 1886.

**Ferrington Hotel.** This hotel was built by A. E. Ferrington in 1882. He sold out to J. A. McConnell. Among the landlords were J. Laird, A. J. Pettie, Mrs. O'Toole, Daniel Keefe and J. C. Cummings. George H. Johnson owned and managed the place for some years and was conducting a successful business when he sold out to the West Hotel Company. The building is still standing, but is not used for hotel purposes.

### FRATERNITIES.

**Prairie Lodge, No. 123, A. F. & A. M.,** of Blooming Prairie, was organized May 7, when Brother Daniels, of Faribault, read the dispensation of the worshipful worthy grand master, to a few Master Masons assembled. The following officers were named: J. Palmer Johnson, M. W.; Thomas S. Morton, S. W.; C. Whitten, J. W.; J. C. Rea, secretary. May 25, these officers were elected with the following additions: C. D. Giddings, S. D.; C. E. Hancock, J. D.; C. H. Williams, treasurer. The first candidates elected were: Lewis Ellington, E. Morton and J. C. Brainerd, the latter being the first to receive the third degree. Feb. 15, 1876, Brother Daniels, of Faribault, again opened the lodge, and brought the charter, which is dated January 13, 1876, and signed by James C. Braden, of St. Paul, M. W. G. M. The following officers were elected: Charles Whitten, W. M.; T. S. Morton, S. W.; Peter Haley, J. W.; C. E. Hancock, treasurer; E. Morton, secretary; J. C. Brainerd, S. D.; J. C. Rea, J. D.; C. H. Williams, S. S.; A. Colquhoun, tyler. The worshipful masters of the lodge have been: J. Palmer Johnson, 1877-1880; T. S. Morton, 1881-1885; Geo. H. Johnson, 1886; J. C. Brainerd, 1887; George A. Reynolds, 1888; J. Palmer Johnson, 1889; J. C. Brainerd, 1890-1893; C. W. Treat, 1894; Geo. H. Johnson, 1895;



Thomas S. Morton, 1896-1900; George H. Johnson, 1901; George E. Johnson, 1902-1903; Ed. Morton, 1904-1910. The present officers are: E. Morton, W. M.; B. Melby, S. W.; George E. Morton, J. W.; J. C. Brainerd, treasurer; A. E. Johnson, secretary; A. A. Peterson, S. D.; Fred Jurgenson, J. D.; John Jurgenson, S. S.; Henry Peterson, J. S.; R. H. Johnson, tyler.

**Oak Glen, No. 177, Order of the Eastern Star**, was granted its charter May 12, 1904, with Melissa Brainerd, W. M.; O. P. Rask, W. P., and Mabel Morton, A. M. as officers. The charter members were Mrs. Melissa Brainerd, O. P. Rask, Mrs. Mabel Morton, Albert A. Peterson, Samuel A. Rask, Mrs. Harriet O. Rask, Mrs. Oline Rask, Laura M. Brainerd, Mrs. Jessie F. Johnson, Mrs. Bertina Olson, Mrs. Francis Mary Thomas, Edwin Morton, Mrs. Edna Sauer, Mrs. Ragna H. Peterson, Richard H. Johnson, Mrs. Caroline Johnson, Rena Claire Brainerd, Anton Olson, George E. Johnson, Mrs. Arie Marie Johnson, Mrs. Wealthy A. Johnson and John C. Brainerd. The present officers are: Mrs. Frances Thomas, W. M.; Sam A. Rask, W. P.; Mrs. Carrie Johnson, A. M.; Mrs. Melissa Brainerd, secretary; Fred Jurgenson, treasurer; Mrs. Rena Johnson, C.; Mrs. Marie Johnson, A. C.; Miss Minnie Johnson, Adah; Mrs. Edna Carman, Ruth; Mrs. Harriet Rask, Esther; Mrs. Mabel Morton, Martha; Mrs. Bertina Olson, Electa; Miss Rose Johnson, warder; R. H. Johnson, sentry; Edwin Morton, chaplain; Miss Maude Jurgenson, organist.

**Haakon Lodge, No. 83, Sonner of Norge** (Sons of Norway), was organized October 16, 1908. The charter members were: B. Melby, Alex. H. Fjelstad, Hans Røge, A. A. Peterson, A. Solberg, J. O. Johnson, O. K. Odegard, A. Olson, Benjamin A. Johnson, T. O. Rye, Chris Gorvin, Ole O. Hjelmén, Carl O. Bye, H. T. Holstenson, P. K. Dock, B. B. Johnson, Edward Hanson, A. O. Benson, J. M. Christinnson, E. C. Rask, E. O. Haberstad, S. A. Rask, Theo. P. Fagre, E. E. Simes, Fred Jurgenson and S. S. Severson.

**Cedar Camp, No. 1729, M. W. A.**, was organized August 1, 1892. The first members were: Harris F. Ackerman, Ole O. Bye, Carl O. Bye, Andrew S. Anderson, Louis F. Bakke, Martin Strate, Charles Louis Larson, E. W. Cooley; William Ferrington, Carl Nelson, Peter Prahm, Nathan H. Garrison, Nels Johnson, Jens Jorgenson, Hans Rasmussen, John Sorenson, Robert Whitelaw, Arnt Solberg, Peter V. Rasmussen, John F. Beatty, Louis Larson. The present officers are: P. C., A. Solberg; C., J. C. Petersen; V. C., Joseph Schisler; E. B., Albert A. Peterson; S., Sam A. Rask; E., Fred Jurgensen; I. G., Lawrence Zweiner; O. G., Christ Lund; trustees, A. Solberg, T. E. Cashman and John Jurgenson.

**Freia Lodge, 98, Danish Brotherhood of America**, received its charter September 15, 1896. The first officers were: P. P., Hans P. Munck; P., Soren Petersen; V. P., Peter V. Rasmussen; S., Peter Prahm; treasurer, F. M. Madsen; G., A. P. Olsen; I. G., Christ Sorensen; O. G., Christian Fredericksen; T. R., Jens C. Petersen. The present officers are: P. P., C. M. Mortensen; P., Fred Johnson; V. P., C. Lund; S., Hans Jensen; treasurer, Christ Rasmussen; G., Jes. Brown; I. G., Walter Jensen; O. G., Lawrence Jensen; T. R., Peter Bramsen.

**Murray Court, No. 826, W. C. O. F.**, was organized October 21, 1904. The first officers were: C. R., Mrs. Mary Herron; J. C. R., Mrs. Tillie Pirkle; F. S., Miss Elizabeth Fitzgerald; R. S., Miss Hannah Keefe; treasurer, Mrs. Maria Bell; trustees, Mrs. Bridget Leehy; Mrs. Sarah Meehan and Mrs. Rose Benish. The present officers are: C. R., Mrs. Sara Meehan; V. C. R., Mrs. Etta Cashman; F. S., Mrs. Mary Coggins; R. S., Mrs. Frances O'Connor; treasurer, Mrs. Kate Feehan; trustees, Mrs. Ellen Cummings; Mrs. Ellen Keenan and Mrs. Hannah Goodnature.

**Daughters of Erin, Division No. 2, Ladies Auxiliary, A. O. H.** was organized November 16, 1902. The first officers were: President, Mrs. G. S. Brainerd; vice president, Mrs. D. T. Hollywood; recording secretary, Miss Elizabeth Coggins; insurance secretary, Miss Kathyryne Hanlon; financial secretary, Mrs. T. C. Cashman; treasurer, Miss Margaret Farrell. The present officers are: President, Mrs. William Trotman; vice president, Mrs. John Driscoll; recording secretary, Mrs. T. C. Cashman; insurance secretary, Miss Kathyryne Hanlon; financial secretary, Mrs. T. J. Hanlon; treasurer, Miss Maggie Farrell.

**Blooming Prairie Court, No. 688, Catholic Order of Foresters**, was granted a charter June 13, 1897. The charter bears the names of Daniel J. Sullivan, Thomas C. Cashman, John M. Feehan, Eugene B. Keenan, Edmond C. Fitzgerald, William Feeney and Daniel T. Hollywood.

## CHURCHES.

**St. Columbanus Roman Catholic Church**, of Blooming Prairie. Doubtless several of the early Catholic priests passed through what is now the village of Blooming Prairie in the early days. Father Ravoux is known to have traversed this prairie, but the first mass of which we have any real knowledge was that said by Father Prendegast in a construction shack somewhere near the site of the present village in the early part of 1867. The mass was said for the spiritual edification of the construction crews engaged in laying the tracks of the C. M. & St. P. Ry., but many devout Catholics from the surrounding farms were in at-

tendance. Mrs. Thomas O'Connor, now living in Blooming Prairie, was present at this service. Father Prendegast was at that time located in La Crosse, but made frequent trips to this vicinity. Other services were doubtless held here in the earliest days of the village by Father William Hurley, then stationed at Austin. Father Paul Genis, then stationed at Austin, and Father Patrick McDermott, who passed through here on his way from St. Mary's to Austin. Father Joseph Keller, of Faribault, also held services here at an early day. Father Thomas Pribyl, of Owatonna, had charge of the parish about five years and Father Walter Rawley, of Owatonna, for a similar period. The early regular services of the church were held in a building in block 8, later occupied by Thomas Feeny as a hardware store and still later destroyed by fire. In 1868 a small church was erected. The present edifice in block 8 was erected in 1877 and dedicated the same year. Since then a sacristy has been added and other improvements made. A comfortable parish house was purchased in August, 1883. To this parish, on October 1, 1882, came Father David L. Murray, of Rhode Island, who was the first resident priest. Father Murray has remained here since that date, and ably fulfills the ideal of a parish priest. For thirty years he has labored in this and the surrounding country, and his devotion has endeared him to the people of all denominations and creeds.

Among the pioneers of this church who may be mentioned are James Barry, Thomas O'Connor, John Hanlon, Daniel McCallister, Patrick Murphy, James Duggan, Frank Zwiener, Thomas Barry, Patrick Fallon, Thomas Feeney, Octave Garriepy, Michael Fallon, Edward Burke, Richard McCallister, Peter Gosha, Peter Steinlitzer, Thomas Feehan, Milo Flannigan, Denis Moran, James Birgen, Thomas Birgen, M. M. Guthrie and others.

**St. Columbanus Cemetery.** This cemetery adjoins the Blooming Prairie cemetery, and was a part of the original tract set aside in the early days for cemetery purposes. The ground was consecrated in 1893 by Bishop Joseph B. Cotter, of Winona.

**The Episcopal Church** was organized here early in the seventies by Rev. G. C. Tanner, of Owatonna. Shortly afterward the society erected the church edifice at a cost of about \$1,400. In 1896 the edifice was sold to the Presbyterian denomination.

**The Presbyterian Church.** Services of the Presbyterian faith were held at various times in the days of the early settlement of Blooming Prairie. The church was organized December 2, 1896, and the congregation purchased the church edifice, which had been erected by the Episcopalians. The first pastor was T. N. Weaver, and he has been followed by J. M. Swander, Irwin G. Smith and Egerton S. Carey. The first elders of the church

were James Campbell, L. G. Campbell, Ed. Morton and George L. Taylor.

**Blooming Prairie Congregation of the United Norwegian Lutheran Church**, of America, had its beginning with services held by Rev. C. L. Clausen, who organized a society. He was succeeded by Rev. P. G. Ostby, of Austin, who remained until 1878. Mr. Clausen then came back, and took up his abode here, but failing health necessitated his securing an assistant. This assistant, Rev. S. Strand, became pastor in July, 1885, and remained until the fall of 1894. Rev. N. Iverson then came and remained until 1898 when he was succeeded by Rev. Osmond Johnson, the present pastor. A church was erected at an early day, but was sold to the Methodist people in 1876 when the present edifice was erected. A sacristy has since been added, and the interior renovated and improved from time to time. The pleasant parsonage was purchased three years ago. The congregation assumed its present synodical relation in 1890. Connected with this church is a flourishing Sunday school, a young people's society and two ladies' societies. Among the pioneers of the church may be mentioned Guttorm Hillson, Ingvald Peterson, G. A. Peterson, Even E. Lofthus, Ole Embrickson, Lars Bekkdal, Sven Olson and others.

**The First Baptist Church**, of Blooming Prairie, had its beginning May 16, 1868, when a few Baptists met at the school house near Oak Glen, and organized, with O. A. Williams in the pulpit and Dr. J. M. Finch, of Clinton Falls, clerk pro tem. Sarah McGuire, Fannie Pettie and Kate Farrington were received by letter; A. E. Ferrington, James Carey and Mary Carey on profession of faith; and Lydia McDaniels, Julia Thimson, Clarize L. Smith and Cornelius Smith as candidates for baptism. A. E. Ferrington was elected deacon. The last entry of this organization is made in the records in February, 1878. In 1886 Rev. C. D. Belden began holding services in the Methodist Church, in Blooming Prairie village, and on Sunday, September 24, 1893, the First Baptist Church was organized, at the Episcopal Church, to which the congregation had moved. The first board of trustees of the church consisted of N. H. Garrison, C. B. Pettie, Fred P. Thimsen, T. S. Morton and F. G. Brown. In 1896, M. B. Critchet became pastor. One year later came Rev. A. B. Murphy, who was ordained in Blooming Prairie and also served the church at Ellendale. In 1898 a parsonage was built. Rev. Murphy left in 1899, and the pulpit was occupied three years by students. January 31, the mortgage on the parsonage was burned and on the same date it was voted to erect a church edifice. In 1902, Rev. B. L. Bergstrom came and served as pastor one year and nine months, and then the pulpit was occupied by stu-



dent supplies until the Rev. E. A. Gilmour, the present pastor, came in December, 1905. The church has a Sunday school, a Ladies' Aid Society and a Ladies' Mission Circle. Mrs. F. P. Thimsen is clerk; T. S. Morton, treasurer, and F. P. Thimsen, T. S. Morton, Stillman Noble, Hannibal Noble and C. E. Hancock, trustees. Mrs. B. H. Morton is in charge of the Sunday school.

The Methodist Episcopal Church, of Blooming Prairie, was organized shortly after the settlement of the village. A church was purchased from the Norwegian Lutherans and dedicated in 1876. The church is still standing, but is not now in use. Among the early pastors were Rev. Reuben Washburn, Rev. C. J. Hayes, Rev. E. S. Bowdish, Rev. Putnam, Rev. Reynolds and others.

### COMMERCIAL INTERESTS.

**Blooming Prairie Mercantile Co.** Thomas Feeney, an early settler of Blooming Prairie township, engaged in the mercantile trade in 1871 in a building on lot 1, block 13. Mr. Feeney was interested in business here for many years in general merchandise and afterward in the hardware trade. His stock of merchandise was sold to Geo. Jenson and O. A. Veblin, who, after a remove or two, purchased the building and the business on lot 1, block 13, from M. O. Wilson. About this time Norman Evans became a partner in the firm, Mr. Jenson soon retired and the firm became Veblin & Evans; the latter a few years later removed to Sioux Falls. This business was finally incorporated under the style of Veblin Mercantile Co., which conducted a successful business until 1907, when it was sold to T. J. Johnson & Co., who a few months afterwards were succeeded by the Blooming Prairie Mercantile Co. This company is now incorporated, J. C. Brainerd being president, J. J. Bruzek, vice president; Fred Jurgenson, secretary; T. J. Cashman, treasurer, and G. S. Brainerd, manager. This company divided their stock and are now doing a business in general merchandise at the old stand and a clothing and shoe house in block 13.

**Alliance Cash Company.** Early in 1890, the firm of Gage, Holland & Hayden, of Albert Lea, opened a branch store in Blooming Prairie. A block was erected the same year and opened in September. The following year the firm was incorporated as the Alliance Cash Company, the officers being: President, D. J. O'Leary; vice president, F. P. Thimsen; secretary, F. J. Schisler; treasurer, T. C. Cashman. The firm is now owned entirely by local people, the officers being: President, T. C. Cashman; vice president, Martin Nelson; secretary and

treasurer, F. P. Thimsen. The store handles a line of general merchandise and is doing a large and increasing trade.

**Furniture.** The first furniture store in the village was opened by P. Haley, in 1873. Mr. Haley had formerly lived on a farm about two miles west of the village. The store was situated in block 8, nearly opposite the old Western house. For about two years the business was conducted by Mr. Haley, after which he sold out to William Marshall. John G. Lennon next succeeded to the business and sold out to A. B. Johnston. The next owners of the business were M. Olson, Ole Norval and Swen Embrickson. L. S. Ulland purchased the stock in 1887, and is still in the business. He soon added to this line that of farm implements, vehicles, etc. He has been quite successful and has a large volume of business.

J. C. Guthrie, M. J. Lee and H. O. Houg were each in the furniture business for a short time.

**Hardware.** In 1873, Curtis & Dunton opened a small hardware store with a small stock in one room of a double store erected by J. N. Dunton & Sons. After a few months' experience, this company sold its stock to David Giddings, of St. Charles, Minn., who disposed of the goods to Edward Morton in the same year. Mr. Morton has been one of the leading business men of the village, and is still actively engaged in the hardware and agricultural implement trade. He is also the proprietor of a fine farm adjoining the village, and owns considerable other land in the vicinity.

**The Blooming Prairie Iron Works** does considerable business in manufacturing seed cleaners, pump jacks and other articles, and is engaged in general repairing. The company was organized by the Srsoen Brothers, April 12, 1897, and started operations at once. In 1909 the business was sold to Frank H. Skalicky and John J. Pribyl.

**Physicians.** The first physician to locate at Blooming Prairie village was Dr. Saulsbury, who came here from Owatonna in 1887 and remained about two years. Among others who are not now practicing here, but who were in former days may be mentioned the names of Drs. Theodore L. Hatch, W. S. Wood, J. Palmer Johnson, B. J. Hawkins, Emma Washburn, A. A. Finch, A. H. Johnson and Drs. Goudy, Hadley, Eberhardt, Caldwell and Watson. The present physicians in the village are Drs. Harry G. Wood, Benedik Melby, E. H. Cooley and J. W. Warren.

## CHAPTER XXVIII.

### NEWSPAPERS.

Watchman and Register—Medford Valley Argus—Owatonna Journal—News Letter—Owatonna Representative—Owatonna Register—Owatonna Democrat—Vidette—Owatonna Register—Owatonna Plaindealer—Journal and Herald—Owatonna Chronicle—Journal-Chronicle—People's Press—Our Pastime—Morning Star—Daily Herald—Owatonna Tribune—Ellendale Eagle—Blooming Prairie Times—Compiled and Edited by Benjamin E. Darby.

Steele county is the home of six newspapers, all of which are well edited and well printed, having a satisfactory circulation and exerting an influence for good on the community. In former days still others have flourished, some having been discontinued by removal, some by consolidation and some by lack of patronage. It will be noticed that there are several repetitions of names, several favorite cognomens being frequently revived.

#### WATCHMAN AND REGISTER.

The first paper started in the county was under the above title. It was established at Owatonna, in July, 1856, by J. H. Abbott and A. B. Cornell, who purchased press, type and fixtures of Maj. W. A. Hotchkiss, at that time editor and publisher of the "Northwestern Democrat," at St. Anthony. Mr. Cornell acted as editor and business manager for a time, when the services of H. M. Sheetz, an experienced newspaper man, were secured as editor. Some time in 1857 the word "Watchman" was dropped from the name, and the "Owatonna Register" was published until some time in the winter of 1857-8, with Abbott & Cornell and W. F. Pettit as proprietors, and H. M. Sheetz as editor, and then it was discontinued. It had been a useful means of advertising the locality, and did its full share in molding the public mind.

#### MEDFORD VALLEY ARGUS.

This was the second local journal to lay claim to public favor in Steele county. It was published at Medford, dating its first appearance about the middle of August, 1858, and was under

the control of Messrs. Francis & Sulley. It was printed with the same material which had been used in the publication of the "Register," the material having been purchased of the company by William F. Pettit, and by him sold to Mr. Bartholomew, of Medford. Messrs. Francis & Sulley leased it of Mr. Bartholomew. Mr. Sulley soon sold his interest to J. R. Lucas, and the publication was continued for a short time, when the enterprise was abandoned and the material was rented to H. M. Sheetz, who moved it back to Owatonna.

### OWATONNA JOURNAL.

This paper was started by H. M. Sheetz with the material which he had secured at Medford, and made its appearance shortly after the demise of the "Argus." It was a seven-column sheet, neatly printed and ably edited, and was received with marked favor by its patrons. It was Republican in politics and the earnest and devoted advocate of all reforms. In October, 1859, Mr. Sheetz died, and the "Journal" was carried on by his widow for some time thereafter. Hon. William F. Pettit, at that time state senator from Steele county, had started a project to allow Mrs. Sheetz, who was a woman of considerable literary ability, to retain the office as a mark of esteem from the public, whom her husband had so faithfully served, and has already received \$150 from his fellow members of the senate to aid in carrying out this benevolent project. But upon returning home he found that the office had been sold to A. B. Cornell, which at once put a stop to the publication of the "Journal."

### NEWS LETTER.

Shortly after the suspension of the "Journal," the "News Letter" was established by A. B. Cornell. He kept up the enterprise until 1862, when he took a sutler's position in the army, and Mrs. Cornell continued the publication of a small sheet some three or four columns in width until 1863, when Dr. Kelly, editor of the "Plaindealer," which in the meantime had been started, purchased the job office and the good will of the "News Letter," and its publication was discontinued.

### OWATONNA REPRESENTATIVE.

In the summer of 1860 Messrs. William F. Pettit and John H. Abbott, assisted J. W. Crawford in the purchase of an office in Mantorville, Dodge county, and the publication of the "Owatonna Representative" was commenced. It was an eight-column sheet, and was very ably conducted and well printed, reflecting



much credit upon the enterprise of the citizens who sustained it, as well as those who conducted it. It was continued for about eighteen months, when Mr. Crawford entered the army, and Messrs. Pettit and Abbott sold the material to James E. Child, of Wilton, Waseca county.

### **OWATONNA REGISTER.**

This paper was started by A. B. Cornell soon after his return from the army. It was published in an independent, neutral manner, consequently meeting with poor success, yet it continued to drag out an existence for some little time, when it succumbed from want of proper sustenance, and publication was discontinued.

### **OWATONNA DEMOCRAT.**

This was a newspaper aspirant for public favor, starting with Capt. J. D. Wood as editor and proprietor. It was received with considerable enthusiasm by the Democracy, as it was a purely Democratic paper; yet it did not receive sufficient support to meet the necessary expenditures, and after trying the experiment for about a year it was discontinued.

### **VIDETTE.**

In the spring of 1867, J. A. Spellman started a paper called the "Vidette." It was a seven-column folio, and independent Republican in politics. It was continued only for a short time, when it was merged with the "Journal," Mr. Spellman becoming one of the proprietors of that paper.

### **OWATONNA REGISTER.**

In 1867 another Democratic paper was started, which was called the "Owatonna Register," under the control of C. F. George. He continued its publication at a pecuniary loss for about one year, when the office was removed to Faribault.

### **OWATONNA PLAINDEALER.**

In April, 1863, Dr. L. H. Kelly commenced the publication of a paper called the "Owatonna Plaindealer." The town was then growing rapidly; the business kept increasing until the "Plaindealer" became one of the best paying offices in this part of the state. It was started as a seven-column paper, but in the spring of 1866 was enlarged to an eight-column folio. In the fall of the same year the office was purchased by Tappan, Higbee & Hathaway. The new firm shortly afterward commenced the publication of the "Republican Journal," and in a few weeks the

firm became Higbee, Spellman & Bickham, and the name of the paper became the "Owatonna Journal."

### THE OWATONNA JOURNAL.

The files of the "Owatonna Journal" commenced with the issue of January 13, 1876; at least it is impossible to find any copies of prior issues. At that time the paper was running as an eight-column folio. The proprietors at that time were Crandall & Bickham—C. S. Crandall, W. H. Bickham—and Thursday was the day of issue. It was very neatly gotten up and well filled with local and general news, as well as having a good run of local advertising. During the same winter Mr. Crandall, one of the firm, was appointed postmaster, and that partially severed his former intimate connection with the management of the "Journal." The issue of October 19, 1876, was the last bearing the names of Crandall & Bickham as editors. With the issue on October 26, 1876, the name of F. T. Drebert appears at the head of the columns as editor and proprietor.

At the time Mr. Drebert came, the office was kept in what was known as the Dresser building. It remained there until it was moved to the Temple block. One incident in the history of the "Journal" was its connection with the failure of L. Bixby's "Review." Mr. Bixby had rented the material of the office to A. H. Lewis, and in 1879 he made arrangements with Mr. Drebert to turn over the subscription in the manner of a consolidation of the two, the publication of the "Review" to cease, and, according to the arrangement, while he did not become a partner in the publication, he was to get a percentage on the job work and advertising. By consent of Mr. Drebert he moved a lot of paper and stock into the "Journal" rooms for storage purposes. As soon as Mr. Bixby learned of this he got out a writ of replevin and secured possession of the material, making Mr. Drebert a co-defendant. When the suit was settled Mr. Bixby started a paper called the "Review," having copied the subscription list. This paper was afterward removed to Minneapolis and became the "Temperance Review." February 12, 1886, the "Journal" was consolidated with the "Herald," which had been established by the Soper Brothers, and the name of the paper became the "Journal and Herald."

### JOURNAL AND HERALD.

Under this arrangement the firm name became Drebert & Soper Brothers—F. T. Drebert, J. A. and W. B. Soper. W. B. Soper retired from the firm in October, 1886, leaving the management in the hands of F. T. Drebert and J. A. Soper.

The "Owatonna Journal" continued under the ownership of F. T. Drebert and the Soper Brothers until April 27, 1888, when the Sopers sold their half-interest to W. A. Dynes. This change was followed a little over a year later by the retirement of Mr. Drebert, on June 7, 1889, Mr. Dynes buying his interest and becoming sole proprietor. Mr. Drebert's retirement was generally regretted, as he was an able and honest editor and highly respected. He went from Owatonna to Chatfield, where he bought the "Chatfield Democrat," which he conducted until his death. On February 14, 1890, W. A. Dynes sold a half-interest in the "Journal" to I. W. Burch, an old resident of Owatonna, who assumed the editorial end. It is interesting to note that even at this early date the "Journal" advocated a reduction in the tariff. Messrs. Dynes and Burch retired from the business February 16, 1891, selling to A. J. Truesdell, the eldest son of J. E. Truesdell. Mr. Truesdell considerably built up the paper, being not only well equipped for business and editorial management, but also a most energetic man. In fact, it is generally believed that his extreme devotion to the end of making a success of his venture wrecked his health. He died April 14, 1894, mourned by the entire community as he was held in the highest regard.

On May 1 following, J. Frank Dean, who had been in charge of the mechanical department of the paper, purchased the "Journal," and from that time on for nearly ten years the "Journal" had a varied career. For several years Mr. Dean, who was a very capable business man and especially a clever solicitor, vastly built up the business. But the establishment of the "Owatonna Chronicle" in 1897, by E. K. Whiting and H. F. Luers, opened a new epoch in the county's newspaper history, really the most interesting period of that history, and the competition thus created gradually sapped the "Journal's" prestige and prosperity. The history of the "Chronicle" will be later referred to.

Following the establishment of the "Chronicle" and the defection of its founders, Messrs. Whiting and Luers, from the "Journal" staff, John Lawson, former editor of the "Northfield Independent," was brought to Owatonna to edit the "Journal." His was a pungent pen, and frequently vitriolic, and the passages-at-arms which the advent of such a writer invariably causes between newspapers made spicy reading for Steele county people, until the publishers at last learned, as is always the case, that the people soon tire of such arguments and the game is not worth the candle. Mr. Lawson remained with the "Journal" until May 14, 1903, meantime assisting in starting the "Owatonna Evening Journal," the launching of which was one of the incidents of the period of lively competition between the "Journal" and

"Chronicle." During this time both the "Journal" and the "Chronicle" also tried the experiment of changing from weeklies to semi-weeklies. This lasted for almost three years, when, finding the experiment unprofitable, both papers dropped the semi-weekly publication by mutual consent. Mr. Lawson was succeeded as editor of the "Daily and Weekly Journal" by John M. Cotton, another importation, who occupied the position for two years.

Meantime, in September, 1903, Mr. Dean, needing new capital, interested Dr. E. E. Bigelow in the proposition and sold him a half-interest in the concern. The ownership was vested in an incorporated company called the Journal Publishing Company, of which E. E. Bigelow was president and treasurer and J. Frank Dean, secretary and manager. But the association of Messrs. Dean and Bigelow was not a success, and the difficulties between them finally culminated in Dr. Bigelow's application for a receiver for the company. The district court examined the case and granted the application in January, 1905, and placed Harvey S. Dartt in charge of the concern as receiver. The receivership ended in September, 1905, when Dr. Bigelow bid in the business at receiver's sale and became sole owner. Meantime Harry A. Lawson, son of John Lawson, had been placed in editorial charge and conducted the daily and weekly "Journal" as editor until March 6, 1906, when Dr. Bigelow sold the concern to C. K. Bennett, who was acting as purchasing agent for Messrs. Whiting & Luers, the proprietors of the "Chronicle." The consolidation of the two papers followed as a matter of course, and will be treated of in connection with the history of the "Owatonna Chronicle."

The "Journal," at the time W. A. Dynes bought out F. T. Drebert, was located in the second story of the Lorence block, on Cedar street. This office it occupied until a year or so after the establishment of the "Chronicle," in 1897. The office was then removed to the first floor corner office and the front basement of the Metropolitan opera house. Here a very handsome business office was fitted up, but in general the location was never ideal, either from a business standpoint or for printing purposes. The "Journal" occupied this location until its consolidation with the "Chronicle" in 1906.

### OWATONNA CHRONICLE.

The advent of the "Owatonna Chronicle" into the newspaper field, as before stated, marked an epoch in the newspaper history of the county. The founders, E. K. Whiting and H. F. Luers, who had previously been connected with the "Journal's"



business and news departments, were young men with progressive ideas and were well equipped for the task of founding and conducting a first class modern newspaper.

They obtained a footing in the field by first purchasing the "Farmers' Gazette," a paper which had been established in 1896, in preparation for the free silver campaign, first as a semi-weekly, and a little later changed to a weekly. Up to this time the "Gazette" had been a nondescript affair, with limited equipment and little patronage, and had been leading a precarious existence despite the efforts of its publisher, M. D. Toof. The object of Messrs. Whiting & Luers in purchasing the "Gazette" was to clear the field and get the advantage of its footing as an established paper. The new owners continued the publication of the "Gazette" only until they could buy and install a complete new newspaper and job printing plant of capacity equal to the production of such a paper as they proposed to publish. So soon as this was accomplished and the new plant was ready for business on the east half of the second floor of the Morehouse Opera block, the "Owatonna Chronicle" appeared, on September 2, 1897, and the "Gazette" passed into oblivion, both as to name and character.

The "Chronicle" met with favor from the start. Its publishers announced it as a Republican paper, but their policy has always been one of independence of the dictation of politicians. The first big hit made by the "Chronicle" was almost at the very start, when it secured what still stands as the biggest "scoop" in the newspaper history of the county—the announcement of the confession of Leigh Hough, who had murdered Joe Clark a week or ten days before, and was subsequently captured in the south and brought back to Owatonna. The "Chronicle" alone learned that Hough was about to confess, and was alone represented when the confession was made. The force of printers was hastily and quietly assembled and worked all night, and the first anyone else, including the publishers of other papers, knew of the confession was when the improvised newsboys were crying the "Chronicle" extras on the streets, the first extra edition ever issued in the county.

The ginger shown in this enterprise was characteristic of the policy which built up the Chronicle in less than a decade into the newspaper of largest circulation in the county. The "Chronicle" "set the pace" (and it was often an expensive one), being in the forefront in adopting new ideas in the manner of presenting news and improving the attractiveness of the paper. It was a pace which made the newspapers published a few years before look like backwoods affairs.

The natural result of this stimulating and expensive contest

for public favor was the elimination of one paper, as in a field such as presented in Owatonna there is room for no more than three such expensive newspapers as have been published in Owatonna since the establishment of the "Chronicle." It fell to the "Journal" to be eliminated, by the process of consolidation already mentioned in the "Journal's" history.

### JOURNAL-CHRONICLE.

The consolidation effected, the name of the "Evening Journal" was changed to the "Daily Journal-Chronicle," and the combined weeklies were given the name of the "Owatonna Journal-Chronicle." The ownership was vested in a stock company, called the Journal-Chronicle Company, in which E. K. Whiting and H. F. Luers were the principal stockholders, C. K. Bennett taking a small block of stock and acting on the directorate. Later E. A. Brown, foreman of the mechanical department, was sold a small block of stock, and Mrs. C. S. Crandall purchased C. K. Bennett's stock.

Under the consolidation arrangement, the quality of Steele county newspapers, already recognized all over the state as above par, made another advance, and the "Daily Journal-Chronicle," the weekly "Owatonna Journal-Chronicle" and the "People's Press" are recognized as brilliant planets in Minnesota's firmament of live country newspapers.

The quarters of neither the "Journal" or the "Chronicle" were sufficient to accommodate so large and busy a concern as the consolidation created, and immediate arrangements were made with the National Farmers' Bank for quarters in its famous new bank building, then just about to be built. The east end ground floor and two upstairs offices in the handsome new building were reserved for the "Journal-Chronicle," and built especially for its use. The result was the handsomest, most conveniently arranged and completely equipped newspaper and printing office in the state, outside the twin cities. Further mention of this fine printing and publishing office will be given in another portion of this history.

The president of the Journal-Chronicle Company is H. F. Luers, who is also editor of the "Daily and Weekly Journal-Chronicle." He was born and raised and has always lived in Owatonna, and therefore has that intimate knowledge of the city and county, their history and their people, which is so valuable and desirable in a man occupying the position of editor in a community. He first entered newspaper work as a reporter on the "Journal," in 1896, remaining in that position until he joined with E. K. Whiting in founding the "Chronicle," in 1897.

E. K. Whiting is secretary and business manager of the Journal-Chronicle Company, and is a man who has won respect for character and ability as a business and newspaper man since his coming to Owatonna, in June, 1894, to accept a position on the "Journal." He had previously had considerable experience in the management of a printing office in St. Cloud and in the printing business in the twin cities, and after coming to Owatonna was entrusted with a large share of the business management of the "Journal." Consequently he was well equipped for the large task of building up a new newspaper from the business end, and as a testimonial to the success of his efforts stands the "Journal-Chronicle" of today.

Any history of Steele county newspapers would be incomplete without mention of E. A. Brown, foreman of the "Journal-Chronicle," and a stockholder in the Journal-Chronicle Company, for Mr. Brown has been in the printing business in Owatonna continuously for a longer time than any other man not the owner of a newspaper. He came to Owatonna in 1885, and since that time has served as foreman, first on the "People's Press," later on the "Journal," then on the "Chronicle," and finally on the "Journal-Chronicle." He is an expert in his line, and so regarded by the other members of the Journal-Chronicle Company, and the printers' fraternity generally.

### PEOPLE'S PRESS.

The first issue of this paper made its appearance on Wednesday, September 2, 1874, as an eight-column folio. It was established by B. E. Darby and N. E. Lemen, under the firm name of Darby & Lemen.

Although the name of Mr. Lemen appears as one of the proprietors of the "Press," he was not an active partner, and on September 16, 1874, his name was dropped from the head of the columns, and that of B. E. Darby appeared as sole editor and proprietor. Mr. Lemen had been running a paper at Kasson, Dodge county, and when the "People's Press" was established he sold Mr. Darby the material with which the "Press" office was then furnished and agreed to get out the first issue. In this, however, he failed, as Mr. Darby arrived before that time, and the first number of the "Press" made its appearance through his exertions. Mr. Lemen never moved to Owatonna.

Mr. Darby continued the publication of the paper alone until January 6, 1874, when L. C. Martin became associated with him as partner, under the firm name of Darby & Martin. Mr. Martin came here from Prairie du Chien, Wis., and worked as a printer for Mr. Darby during his first year's residence here. In March,

1876, the day of publication was changed from Wednesday to Saturday. On March 9, 1878, Mr. Darby bought out his partner's interest, and the firm of Darby & Martin was dissolved, Mr. Darby again assuming full ownership.

October 4, 1878, the day of publication was again changed, this time to Friday. On October 26, 1878, the "Press" was enlarged and the form changed to a six-column quarto. When the paper was started the office occupied rooms in the Bixby building, on Bridge street. A year later it was moved to H. R. Moor's brick block, which was then occupied by Searles' hardware store. In April, 1880, the "Press" office was removed to Lord's block on the east side of Cedar street.

On June 26, 1885, the "People's Press" absorbed a paper which had been published for some time previous at Blooming Prairie, under the name of the "Tribune." Under the arrangement made, the "Press" filled out the "Tribune's" subscription and advertising contracts, and started a Blooming Prairie department.

The "People's Press" has always steadfastly held to the Democratic faith in political matters, yet it is a local paper in every sense. The paper has never missed an issue since its first number. All official matters have always been published, whether the "Press" was the official paper of the county or not; yet it has been the official paper several years in its history. The "Press" wields a powerful influence, and is recognized as one of the ablest and most active exponents of Democratic ideas in the state.

The "People's Press" was the first newspaper in Steele county and in this part of the state to cover the county by sending out each week a representative to the small adjoining towns on the trains and securing the news of interest of each town without the help of any local correspondent. This visiting of every little town in the county put the "People's Press" in close touch with the news and people of the entire county, and resulted in a very large and increasing circulation.

March 13, 1903, Benjamin E. Darby associated with himself his son, George F. Darby, who became the editor of the "People's Press," and his son, Harry B. Darby, who became the foreman of the newspaper and job printing office, Benjamin E. Darby remaining the publisher of the "People's Press" and sole proprietor of the newspaper and job printing business. These sons had been brought up in the business, and while attending school as boys learned the trade in the office evenings and Saturdays, and when they graduated from school were fairly good practical printers.

George F. Darby was a graduate of Owatonna High School



in Latin Scientific Course in 1894, and Harry B. Darby graduated from Pillsbury Academy in 1898 in the Latin Scientific Course. George F. Darby is a great reader of newspapers, magazines and good books, and a good news gatherer and an interesting writer.

Harry B. Darby has given his entire attention to the mechanical department of the newspaper and to job printing, and is a capable and successful foreman and a very capable business man.

April 4, 1908, Benjamin E. Darby purchased of W. L. Bucksen a No. 5 Mergenthaler linotype typesetting machine, which Mr. Bucksen had purchased the year previous, and which is a fine, modern, up-to-date machine.

William H. Darby, third son of Benjamin E. Darby, was given charge of this business as manager, and the name, Bucksen Typesetting Company, was continued.

In 1908, William H. Darby graduated from the Owatonna High School in the English Scientific Course. He understands how to run the Linotype machine and knows how to keep it in running order. The Bucksen Typesetting Company does all the typesetting for the "People's Press" newspaper and job office; also the newspaper composition for several other newspapers, and such brief and book work as comes in from the printing trade.

The "People's Press" has been regularly issued as a ten-page newspaper, pasted together at the back, since January 11, 1901. Previous to that date it had been an eight-page, six-column quarto for many years. Each issue of the "People's Press" now contains editorial correspondence from Ellendale, Hope, Blooming Prairie, Bixby, Pratt, Meriden, Havana and Anderson, Steele county; from Geneva, Freeborn county, and from Claremont, Dodge county. It contains all the local news of any importance which takes place in any part of Steele county, and all the most important news of Ellington, Claremont, Ripley and Westfield, Dodge county.

#### OUR PASTIME.

A weekly paper bearing this title was established at Owatonna, in 1875, by the Soper Brothers, J. A. and W. B. Soper. It was a four-column folio, neatly printed and well edited, the subscription price being 50 cents per year. The paper was continued, being in the meantime enlarged to double the size under which it was started, for about one year, when the name was changed to the "Weekly Review," and under this name it flourished for something like another year. During the time A. H. Lewis became associated with the Soper Brothers, and the firm name became Soper Brothers & Lewis. This arrangement only

continued for about six months, when the "Review" was sold to Luther Bixby. Lewis' connection with the paper assumed a variety of characters, in turn being that of a partner, a lessor, editor on salary, and finally terminated. After this, for a time, Mr. Bixby employed S. C. Harris as editor and eventually the paper was moved to Minneapolis and became the "Temperance Review."

#### **MORNING STAR.**

This was the name of a small daily started at Owatonna, in January, 1876, by Hanson & Howe, two energetic young men. It was only continued for a very short time.

#### **DAILY HERALD.**

This paper was started by the Soper brothers in 1879, with S. C. Harris as editor. It was a small paper, a four-column folio, and was issued daily for about three or four months, when it was changed to a weekly, and became the "Steele County Herald." The paper was enlarged to a four-column quarto. The first issue of this paper bore the date of April 6, 1880. About a year later it was enlarged to a five-column quarto. Soper brothers continued the publication of the "Herald" until February 12, 1886, when it was consolidated with F. T. Drebert's paper, the "Journal," and the name of the paper became the "Journal and Herald," with Drebert & Soper brothers as proprietors. A history of this paper has already been given.

#### **OWATONNA TRIBUNE.**

The "Owatonna Tribune" was established August 30, 1907, by the Soper-Merchant Printing Company. On January 1, 1908, Mr. Merchant withdrew, since which time the business of the paper has been conducted by the present owners, the Soper Printing Company. The paper is independent in politics.

#### **ELLENDALE EAGLE.**

The "Ellendale Eagle" was founded by J. F. Adams and George H. Chase, both of White, S. D., and the first issue was published in six-column quarto size, two pages home print, March 28, 1901. The second of May following, Mr. Chase disposed of his interest to George W. Delany, also of White S. D., by whom the paper was conducted under the firm name of Adams & Delany. September 19 of the same year, Mr. Adams disposed of his interest in the business to Mr. Delany, and on October 4 the latter sold a half interest to R. J. Dabell, at that time the local townsite agent and cashier of the Security State

Bank. Up to this time the paper had no plant to speak of, and the press work was done in Albert Lea and the greater part of the job work sent to Owatonna. With the advent of the firm of Delany & Dobell, a complete plant was purchased and the number of pages of home print increased from two to four. March 1, 1902, the business was purchased by C. C. Campbell, of Brookings, S. D., the present publisher, who changed the paper to the seven-column six-page form in which it is now issued. During the first days of its existence the "Eagle" had many abiding places, one which it occupied for a couple of years being now in use as an automobile garage. At present it occupies commodious quarters of its own in a good location on the main business street of the village. C. C. Campbell, the present proprietor, is a good, capable business man, being both a good job printer and a good editor. The newspaper, the "Ellendale Eagle," is a credit to Ellendale and well deserves the success it is achieving under its present able management. In politics it is Republican.

### BLOOMING PRAIRIE TIMES.

The "Blooming Prairie Times" was issued for the first time on May 18, 1893. It was owned by a corporation under the name of the Times Printing Company, the stockholders being mostly business men of Blooming Prairie. W. M. Dynes was the first editor. The paper was published from the first as an eight-page paper, and has retained its original form. February 7, 1895, W. H. Annett, of Spencer, Iowa, became owner and editor, but remained with the paper only a few months, until October 22 of the same year, when it was sold to W. L. Bucksen, of Owatonna, who also became the editor. On August 2, 1897, two young men of St. Ansgar, Ia., Albert Jeglum and K. Steenberg, bought the paper. They published the paper for six weeks, when it became the property of J. C. Brainerd, with William Merchant as editor, on September 17. On October 11 of the same year, Theodore P. Fagre purchased the plant and stood by for almost a year, W. L. Bucksen again becoming owner on July 27, 1898. Mr. Bucksen this time remained at the helm for almost six years, until June 1, 1906, when Theodore P. Fagre, who had settled in the village and been engaged in the general merchandise business, again turned his attention to journalistic efforts and became editor, with Samuel A. Rask as part owner of the paper. Mr. Fagre is the present owner and editor.

It will thus be seen that the "Times" has been a "football of circumstances," having been kicked about considerably, and has changed hands seven times during its existence of seventeen years. Its life has proven the prevalent notion that it is difficult

for one who has once entered the newspaper field to stay out of it, as Mr. Bucksen owned the paper twice, and Mr. Fagre is now owning it the second time. The paper was run for many years on independent lines as far as party politics were concerned, but when Mr. Bucksen became its owner again in 1898 the paper began to lean toward Republicanism, and at present it is an outspoken organ of Republican principles and policies.



## CHAPTER XXIX.

### NATIONAL GUARD.

History of Company I, Second Infantry, Minnesota National Guard—Its Honors and Efficiency—Muster In—First Officers—Changes in Officers—Erecting the Armory—Social and Disciplinary Advantages—Conclusion.

Owatonna's crack military organization, Company I, Second Regiment of Infantry, Minnesota National Guard, deserves a place in the history of Steele county for especial reasons, in addition to the fact of its existence for twelve years during the time when the National Guard was undergoing marked rejuvenation and improvement as a means of national defense. These especial reasons which have made the company notable are such as pertain to the record of this command alone and make it unique among the National Guard companies of the state.

From the time it was mustered into service, this company has continuously shown remarkable ambition. From the first it claimed first place for efficiency in the regiment to which it was assigned, and that ranking it has jealously guarded ever since.

In 1902, at a time in the history of the guard when competitive markings were given the various companies at the annual inspection, Company I won the distinction of being declared the best company in the state, and it was the first company working under the disadvantages of a lone company in a small city which had ever achieved this distinction, which usually went to one of the companies in the large cities possessing superior advantages in the form of a large armory, club rooms, etc. The first rank rating came as the result of an inspection at Camp Lakeview, where all companies were upon an equal footing. The inspection markings took into account not only accuracy of drill movements, but general efficiency, marksmanship, discipline, care of public property and knowledge of the various duties of the soldier.

But Company I did not rest upon these laurels, though it had no opportunity to win them again as the system of competitive markings was abolished soon after. Ever since that time the company has maintained an average of efficiency which has ranked it year after year as one of the five companies rated first

class, out of from twenty-nine to forty company organizations in the Minnesota National Guard.

This sustained record, during a time when the Guard was undergoing vast improvement, is one, we believe, not equaled by the record of any other company in the state. All companies have years when they are good and years when they slump in form, but Company I is known by every officer in the Guard as a company that always is and always has been first class.

This record has naturally brought distinction to the city in which the company has its home, has spoken well for the general character of the city's young men from whom the company has been recruited, and has reflected credit upon the citizenship of Owatonna for the evident support and encouragement given the company.

Another distinction belonging to the company is that it was the first company in the history of the Minnesota National Guard to manifest the enterprise to build its own armory, and until 1910 it was the only company in the state owning its own armory. The armory property is valued at about \$11,000, and is located on west Vine street. The building is 100 by 64 feet, and has a 32 by 66-foot lawn space in front, on which it is hoped some day to erect a suitable addition for offices and club rooms. The armory was built when the company was but three years old, through the financial efforts of the members of the company, aided by generous contributions from business men and others.

The company was mustered into the service in 1898, after Owatonna had in vain attempted to gain representation in one of the regiments sent into the Spanish-American war. A company of 140 men was raised for the Fifteenth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, but political reasons led the governor to ignore it. Finally came the Indian outbreak at Leach lake, in which Major Wilkinson and several men of the regular army lost their lives. The settlers in that part of the state became frantic with alarm, and it was brought home to the governor and the people of the state that they had no military protection, all the Guard regiments being in the United States service in the war.

Governor Clough thereupon created the Fourth Infantry Reserve Regiment of the Guard, and Owatonna provided Company G of this regiment, which later, as will appear, became Company I of the Second Regiment.

The company was mustered in October 22, 1898, with Clayton H. Stearns, an experienced former guard officer, as captain; W. E. McClintock, another former guard officer, as first lieutenant, and Emil W. Theimer as second lieutenant. Lieutenant McClintock resigned within a few weeks, owing to the pressure of private business, and at about the same time, on November 25,

Captain Stearns was promoted to be a major of the Fourth Regiment. The resulting promotions made Lieutenant Theimer captain; Sergeant Harry C. Howe, first lieutenant, and Sergeant W. C. V. Nelson, second lieutenant, all being commissioned on December 20, 1898. Major Stearns a little later became lieutenant colonel of the regiment.

Under these officers the company made an excellent record at the first annual encampment of the regiment, but the uncertainties of its position made its maintenance, like the other companies of the regiment, very difficult. The equipment provided by the state was very meager, and the Fourth Regiment had failed to receive recognition from the legislature so that it could become a regular part of the state's military force. These conditions, coupled with Captain Theimer's unavoidable absence from the city at this critical time, finally brought the company, in the early part of the year 1900, to a condition wherein strenuous efforts were necessary to save the organization.

The result of these efforts made by the loyal and enthusiastic members, resulted in Mr. Anton Schaefer's being induced to accept the captaincy, Captain Theimer having resigned on March 28. While Mr. Schaefer had had no military experience, he was a natural leader of men, a fine athlete, and of exceptionally fine character as a gentleman and as a good citizen. His acceptance of the captaincy immediately aroused the interest of the leading young men of the city, who, to the number of nearly thirty, enlisted in the company.

The failure of the legislature to provide any support for the Fourth Regiment meantime had left the situation very critical, but Company G was fortified against official dissolution by reason of its record and condition of efficiency. Consequently, when the regiment finally fell to pieces in April, 1900, the company was transferred to fill a vacancy in the Second Regiment, and became Company I of that regiment. At the very first encampment with the Second Regiment, the fine spirit and efficiency of the company attracted so much comment and praise that the company immediately assumed rank as the crack company of the regiment. This ranking it has never relinquished.

At this point a digression should be made to mention that from its inception the company had maintained high ideals of soldierly conduct and duty, and these, consistently maintained and added to by experience, created for the company traditions and an esprit de corps which formed an unshakable foundation for the years to come.

It was under Captain Schaefer, aided by his capable officers, Lieutenants Howe and Nelson, who were fine drillmasters, that

the company won its distinction of first place in the State Guard, in 1902.

Second Lieutenant Nelson resigned on January 12, 1903, because of removal from the city, and was succeeded by Sergeant Herbert W. Vinton.

First Lieutenant Howe resigned October 22, 1903, because of the pressure of his private business. His loss was a severe one to the company, as he was most enterprising as well as a very capable officer. He was succeeded as first lieutenant by Lieutenant Vinton, and First Sergeant Herbert F. Luers became second lieutenant.

These resignations were soon followed, on April 12, 1904, by that of Captain Schaefer, who surrendered the command in the loyal belief that his continual absence from the city, he being a traveling salesman, was a handicap to the company. His resignation was a most discouraging blow, and one which many companies could not have survived; but Company I's traditions and esprit de corps then, as since, proved it to be too well organized to be easily set back.

The unanimous choice of the company for captain fell upon Second Lieutenant Herbert F. Luers, who thereby rose to the grade of captain from that of sergeant within a period of six months. He was commissioned April 25, 1904, as was also the new second lieutenant, Minot J. Brown, who was invited from civil life to take this commission.

Under Captain Luers the company continued to hold its position in the advance of the great progress being made by the entire Guard. The debt which remained on the army was reduced from \$4,000 to \$2,700; and in addition the armory roof was replaced, a new hardwood floor laid, and the interior of the building decorated, all at a cost of over \$1,200.

First Lieutenant Vinton resigned August 1, 1906, because of removal from the city, and Second Lieutenant Brown was promoted to his place. Sergeant Albert E. Butsch was promoted to be second lieutenant.

Captain Luers remained in command for six years, the longest service of any of the company's commanders, and on July 11 resigned because of that reason which has lost the Guard so many officers—the pressure of private business. He proved his intense interest and loyalty to the company, however, by immediately enlisting as a private in the ranks.

The choice of the company for the captaincy fell upon Second Lieutenant Butsch, who was formally elected in September, 1910, Lieutenant Brown having declined to consider taking the captaincy. Sergeant Hugo B. Theimer, a brother of former Captain E. W. Theimer, was elected second lieutenant.



The new captain is, next to Captain Luers, the oldest member of the company, having enlisted in March, 1900. He is a substantial business man, the junior member of the firm of C. Butsch & Son, hardware dealers, and enjoys the entire respect of the community in general, as well as of the men of the company. He has been one of the most valuable members of the company, both as a soldier and in rendering loyal service in many ways outside the regular duties of a member, and there is no question but that under his command the company will maintain its high ideals and position at the front.

What Company I has meant to Owatonna, aside from the reputation it has given the city, may be estimated from the fact that over 500 young men have received a measure of its fine training and discipline, during the twelve years of the company's existence.

What this means may be further illuminated by the statement of the fact that, not by order but by force of tradition, liquor is never allowed either in the armory or upon the company street in camp, and the use of vile language in the company's quarters is frowned upon by common consent. This is significant of the place the organization holds in the affection and respect of its members, and of what it means to be, or to have been, a member of Company I of Owatonna.

The company has always been prominent in the social life of Owatonna, and it is noteworthy that its inspections by superior officers are always attended and witnessed by large numbers of the leading citizens and their families, who feel a most cordial interest in and respect for Company I.

## PART IV—BIOGRAPHICAL

---



## BIOGRAPHICAL

---

**John H. Adair**, one of the leading physicians of Owatonna, was among the first white children born in Steele county, having first seen the light of day in Havana township, July 26, 1858. His parents, Robert and Flora (Hunter) Adair, were sturdy old pioneers, of Highland Scotch ancestry. Dr. Adair attended the schools of his neighborhood, graduated from Pillsbury Academy, and then completed a course in Carlton College, at Northfield, Minn. In 1880 he went to Chicago, entered the Rush Medical College, and graduated from that institution in 1883. He began to practice at Winnebago City, Minn., in 1883, but one year later came to Owatonna, where he has since remained. Dr. Adair has served in several offices of a local nature, was county coroner for many years, and has assisted in the progress of the city as a member of a number of important municipal boards. Being thoroughly ethical in his practice, Dr. Adair has allied himself with the county, state and national medical societies, and has kept well abreast of his time in all departments of medicine and surgery. He was married September 15, 1887, to Mary Lundy Davidson, and this union has been blessed with two daughters, Helen and Catherine.

**Robert Adair** and his brother, John Adair, were the first white settlers of Havana township. They were born in the Highlands of Scotland, and after coming to America, lived for a time in Canada. They came from Racine county, Wisconsin, where they had lived five years, to Steele county, in 1855, by wagon, arriving July 15, 1855. They became prominent citizens, occupied a number of important local offices, and were universally esteemed. Robert died June 7, 1877, and John passed away August 4, 1897.

**John W. Adsit**, the genial and accommodating hotel proprietor of Owatonna, is a native of Steele county, born in Aurora township, December 12, 1869. He was reared on the farm, attended the public schools in his neighborhood, and then took a course at Pillsbury Academy. After leaving school, he spent three years buying and selling live stock, and then until 1895 was in the boot and shoe business with his brothers, Charles and W. B. Adsit, under the firm name of Adsit Brothers. In the meantime, in 1900, the subject of this sketch became inter-



ested in the hotel business. In 1905 he accordingly disposed of his mercantile interests, and since that date, in partnership with Dr. G. G. Morehouse, under the firm name of Morehouse & Adsit, has devoted himself to the management of the Owatonna Hotel, conducting it on the American plan with great success. Mr. Adsit is a public-spirited man and takes an active interest in affairs looking to the welfare of the community. He has served several years on the Public Library Board, and was one of the committee of the Hospital Board to select and purchase the site for its location. He is a member of the Commercial Club of Owatonna, and is identified with the Knights of Pythias, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and Yeomen. He is independent in his political opinions and actions, and carefully weighs the issues of each campaign, choosing to consider the merits of each platform and the character of each candidate, rather than to blindly follow the dictates of party leaders. The family attends the Congregational Church. On September 29, 1896, Mr. Adsit married Miss Effie L., daughter of Dr. E. and Mrs. Lorinda (McRostie) Morehouse. Mr. and Mrs. Adsit have two children: Eugenia L. and Irene J.

**Dr. William W. Arms**, a skilled optician of Owatonna, is a native-born son of the city where he now makes his headquarters, having first seen the light of day February 22, 1870. He received his early education in the public schools of Owatonna. This was supplemented by a course at Pillsbury Academy. After leaving the academy, he attended the Bradley Polytechnic Institute, of Peoria, Illinois. He is also a graduate of the American Neurophthalmology, Los Angeles, California. After graduating from this institution, he located at Owatonna, where he has since remained, doing a large and flourishing business. Aside from his regular office trade he has a circuit of towns which he visits every month, doing optometry work. He is the only person in Steele county practicing exclusively in this line of work. Dr. Arms was married June 29, 1904, at Owatonna, to Miss Nellie R., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Ring, of Medford, Steele county, Minn. The mother died December 13, 1904. Two children have blessed the union of Dr. and Mrs. Arms, viz.: George E., born December 3, 1906; Edward R., born December 19, 1908. The pleasant family home is located at the corner of Flowervale street and Riverside avenue. Dr. Arms affiliates with the Republican party. In religious faith, he is a Baptist. He takes an active interest in church work and has long been a member of that denomination. He is also a member of the I. O. O. F., a member of Minnesota State Optometry Association, and a member of the American Optical Association.

George W. and Abigail (Hughes) Arms, parents of Dr. William W. Arms, were natives, respectively, of Wisconsin and Canada, coming to Owatonna in 1861. The father is a retired carpenter and contractor.

**James Adair**, manager of the Owatonna Creamery Supply Company, is one of the rising young men of the city, and in the eight years that he has been here has already established himself as a reliable and efficient business man. He was born in Waverly, Iowa, September 13, 1870, and received his education in the public schools, supplemented with a high-school course, from which latter he graduated in 1890. After teaching a few years in his native state, he began work in a creamery supply house, where he remained five years. In January, 1896, he moved to Albert Lea, Minn., and there remained five years longer, acquiring a proficiency in his business which might well be envied by many an older man. In September, 1901, after carefully looking over the field, he decided that Owatonna, as the center of a rich dairying district, was a suitable field for a creamery, whereupon he came here and established the Owatonna Creamery Supply Company, of which he has since been the manager. He has associated himself with the life of the community, has a pleasant home at 246 East Rice street, and has affiliated with the Odd Fellows and the United Commercial Travelers. He is a self-made man, and owes all that he is and has to his own faithful efforts. Mr. Adair was married October 23, 1898, at Waverly, Iowa, to Ella Bacher, and to their happy union have been born three children: Helen M., Marion L. and Robert S., all at home. The family faith is that of the Methodist Episcopal church. James and Elizabeth (Stuart) Adair, parents of James Adair, came to Iowa from New York state in 1857, and engaged in farming. In 1881, the former was elected sheriff of Bremer county. He died in Waverly, Iowa, October 29, 1886, his wife having died May 30, 1872.

**Reynold H. Bach**, one of the honored ex-mayors of Owatonna, has taken an active interest in the business and civic progress of the city. Born in Marion, Olmstead county, April 12, 1868, he there received his education. He dates his residence in Owatonna from 1891, when he came here and opened a small retail music store, which grew and prospered. In 1907, Mr. Bach made his first venture in the jewelry business, which he has since conducted, still continuing, however, to handle music supplies of all kinds. He now has a well equipped, well appointed store, and carries a large stock of first-class goods. A branch store of this concern, known as the Bach Music Company, located in Rochester, Minn., is in charge of A. M. Bach, a brother of the subject of this sketch. Ex-Mayor Bach has met with marked success in

all his undertakings and is possessed of those qualities which count for popularity and respect in the community. He served the city of Owatonna two years as alderman of the First ward, and in this capacity did such good service that he was the unanimous choice of his party for mayor, and was elected by a goodly majority. Mr. Bach and family are active members of the Congregational church. In politics he affiliates with the Republican party. He belongs to the A. F. & A. M., the K. of P., the M. W. A., and the U. C. T. He is also a member of the Owatonna Commercial Club, and of the National, Minnesota and Owatonna Automobile Clubs. Mr. Bach was married November 15, 1894, to Jessie Newsalt, daughter of Judge Jacob Newsalt, now deceased. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Bach has been blessed with three children: Lorraine, born December 26, 1904, and Constance L., born October 22, 1906, and one that died in infancy. The family residence is pleasantly located at 503 South Elm street. The parents of Reynold H. Bach, Reinhold and Barbara (Bauer) Bach, were born in Germany, and came to America in early childhood. The father spent his early life in Wisconsin, but in 1867 moved to Olmstead county, Minnesota, and took up agricultural pursuits on the tract of land which he still owns and conducts. Mr. Bach is a lineal descendant of John Sebastian Bach, the famous musician.

**Armin J. Bosshard**, auditor of Steele county, is a lifelong resident of this vicinity, having been born in Meriden township, November 25, 1878, son of Gottfried and Caroline (Theile) Bosshard, natives, respectively, of Switzerland and Germany, the former coming to America in 1851 and the latter in 1849. Armin J. received his early education in the district schools of his neighborhood, and in 1892 entered Pillsbury Academy at Owatonna, graduating in 1896. He then started his career as an accountant, working two years in the First State Bank of Owatonna, two years in the First National Bank and one year in the Farmers' National Bank. In 1903, for a short period of about two years, he resumed agricultural pursuits on the old homestead. In 1905 he was appointed deputy county auditor and was serving in this position in the fall of 1906, when he was elected to his present position, being re-elected in the fall of 1908. Mr. Bosshard is prominent in fraternal circles, and is a high degree Mason, a Knight of Pythias, an Elk and a Modern Woodman. Public-spirited and progressive, he has taken an active interest in the welfare of Steele county, and has been closely identified with the dairy interests, being a stockholder in the Golden Rule Co-operative Creamery Association of Meriden township. He is also secretary of the North Star Poultry Association. September 18, 1907, Mr. Bosshard was married to Anna,

daughter of John Meschke, and the young couple are pleasantly domiciled at 415 South Oak street.

**Gottfried Bosshard** was born in Germany and came to America with his parents in 1851, locating in Wisconsin. Ten years later he enlisted in Company D, Ninth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry and served three and one-half years with valor. In 1867 he came to Steele county, purchased 160 acres in Meriden township and started successful farming operations, gradually adding to his place until he owned 255 acres. In 1893 he retired from active life and moved to Owatonna, where he now resides, enjoying an honored old age.

**John S. Brick**, a prosperous merchant, of the firm of Brick & Misgen, Owatonna, is a native born son of Steele county, having first seen the light of day in Berlin township, December 29, 1872, son of Thomas and Mary (Shea) Brick. He received his early education in the district schools of his neighborhood and Pillsbury Academy and later took charge of the old homestead until 1901, being most successful in his operations. In 1901, he determined to start in commercial life, and accordingly purchased a furniture establishment in partnership with M. R. Hastings. This business relation continued pleasantly for four years, after which Mr. Hastings sold his interest to F. J. Bush. October 15, 1909, Mr. Bush sold his interest to Charles M. Misgen. The company now carries on an extensive furniture business, and also conducts a well appointed funeral directing and embalming department. Mr. Brick is a Democrat in politics, and attends the Roman Catholic Church. He is also prominent in fraternal circles, being a member of the C. O. F., the A. O. H., the K. of C. and the Y. of A. Mr. Brick is an enterprising and public-spirited man who has risen in life by his own efforts, and being yet in the prime of his activities, he has yet a splendid future.

Thomas Brick, an early settler of Steele county, was born in Ireland, and from there migrated to the United States and engaged in railroad work. In 1856 he came to Steele county and took up his abode on a claim of 160 acres in Berlin township, which he pre-empted. Later he purchased another quarter section, and on this farm of 320 acres carried on general agricultural operations, bringing the place to a high stage of development, improvement and cultivation. He was actively engaged in farming up to within a few days of the time of his death. In the family were eight children: John S., an Owatonna merchant; Mary, who died in youth; Ellen, who is in a convent; Catherine, who lives in Owatonna; Margaret, Susan and Elizabeth, who are dead; William, who lives on the old homestead, and Thomas, who is a traveling salesman out of Owatonna.



**Lawrence C. Brown** is a well known mechanic of Owatonna, Minnesota, who has made his own way in the world. He is a native of Washington county, Wisconsin, where he was born December 6, 1867. His father and mother, Peter and Margaret (Donsback) Brown were natives of Germany, who came from the Fatherland in 1846 and settled in Washington county, Wisconsin, where the father took up a tract of land, which he subdued and improved and where he made a home and reared his family and carried on general farming until 1907, when he retired and moved to Fond du Lac county. The mother passed away October 21, 1903. Our subject grew up on the home farm in Wisconsin, having the usual experiences of the Western farmer boy, and after leaving the district school worked on the farm until he was eighteen years old. He then learned the blacksmith's trade in his native county and worked at it there some four years. On May 4, 1889, he took up his residence at Owatonna, Minnesota, where he followed his trade working for different parties seven years. On October 1, 1896, Mr. Brown opened a shop and began business on his own account, and has carried it on with marked success, having become widely known as an expert horseshoer. He conducted the business in his own name until April, 1904, when his brother, H. J. Brown, came in and since then this up-to-date horseshoeing shop has been conducted under the firm name of Brown Brothers. Since March 14, 1910, Mr. Brown has operated the shop alone, his brother moving to Denhoff, North Dakota, where he engaged in the same business.

Mr. Brown is a Democrat in politics and has represented the second ward of Owatonna in the city council. In 1910 he was elected a member of the council at large for a term of four years. He is active in fraternal societies, and is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America, the Maccabees, the Eagles and Knights of Pythias. October 13, 1892, Mr. Brown married Miss Augusta Bartsch whose parents were natives of Germany. The father, John Bartsch, was in the hotel business at Mayville, Dodge county, Wisconsin, and thence moved to Minnesota where both he and the mother died.

**Lewis C. Berg**, of Owatonna, a veteran of the Civil War, was born in Norway, August 23, 1838, and there received his earlier education, coming to America with his mother in 1845. After attending the public schools of Wisconsin for a time, he learned the moulders' trade at Beaver Dam, in the same state, and was engaged in this business at the outbreak of the Civil War. In 1862 he enlisted in Company A, Twenty-eight Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, as a musician and served three years, being discharged at Brownsville, Texas, and mustered out at



L. C. BROWN



Madison, Wis. For a short time Mr. Berg lived at Hartland, Wis., and in October, 1865, came to Owatonna, where he became a moulder for Lowth & Howe, Mr. Lowth having been his former employer in Wisconsin. He remained with this firm through various changes in ownership, and in 1888, when it was incorporated under the present title of the Owatonna Manufacturing Company, he became ornamenteer and painter, which position he still holds. In politics Mr. Berg is a Republican. For eighteen years he served as a member of the Owatonna fire department. He is also an enthusiastic worker in the James A. Goodwin Post, G. A. R., being now a past commander. A public-spirited man in every respect, he has taken a deep interest in the welfare of the community in which for so long he has made his home. Mr. Berg was married October 29, 1865, at Beaver Dam, Wis., to Ellen Lowth, daughter of Edward and Mary (Duffy) Lowth, who took up a government claim in Wisconsin in the early days and carried on general farming until their decease. Mrs. Berg was born in Pittsford, Vermont, July 9, 1842. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Berg is blessed with two children: Frank L., who is now a druggist in Minneapolis, and Alice M., who is now Mrs. Egbert Brown, of Owatonna. The family faith is that of the Episcopal Church. The residence is pleasantly located at 240 East Broadway. Charles and Karen S. Stave Berg, parents of Lewis C. Berg, were natives of Norway. The father died in 1840 and the mother came to America five years later with her five children, locating in Waukesha county, Wisconsin. She died in 1896 at the ripe old age of ninety-four.

Byron P. Chapin, a merchant of Owatonna, was born in Courtland county, New York State, March 20, 1851, son of Rufus H. and Abigail S. (Putnam) Chapin, of New York State. The parents came west in 1870, locating at Owatonna, where the father engaged in the machinery and livery business. He continued this business until 1895, when he retired from active life. The father died February 4, 1908, the mother passed away February 4, 1898. Byron received his early education in New York State. After leaving school, he engaged in the livery business, which he continued until 1870, when he came west with his parents. He purchased 208 acres of land in Havana township, Steele county, and engaged in farming which he continued until 1888. He then rented the farm and came into the City of Owatonna, where he engaged with his father in the livery business until 1892. At this time, he bought twenty-five acres of land in the city limits and again took up agricultural pursuits, which he followed until April, 1909, when he rented the land and bought the second-hand store of J. W. Gillett, which busi-



ness he has continued successfully since. Mr. Chapin was married November 7, 1877, in Havana township to Lena Kate Landon. She passed away February 5, 1898, leaving three children in the care of her husband, viz: George R., a farmer of Montana; Clara, now Mrs. Charles Stewart, of Montana; Frank L., also living in Montana. Mr. Chapin was married a second time May 9, 1901, to Miss Myra Greenwood. This union was blessed with one child, Elizabeth A. Mr. Chapin believes in the Prohibitionist party. He is a frugal, enterprising and progressive business man, who has gained what he possesses by his own efforts, a good citizen, well appreciated by all who know him. His home is located at 227 East Vine street.

**Guy J. Clefton**, an enterprising and popular business man of Owatonna, was born in Mukwonago, Wis., May 9, 1874, son of William W. and Sarah A. (Smith) Clefton, natives of Wisconsin and descendants from old New England stock. The father still makes his home in Wisconsin. The mother died August 11, 1886. Mr. Clefton received his early education in the public schools of Wisconsin, after which he took up and learned the plumbing and heating business. He came to Faribault in 1890 and in the fall of the same year he moved to Owatonna. In 1895 he became identified with the Western Supply Company, of St. Paul, acting as traveling salesman, selling heating and plumbing supplies. He remained with this firm until 1905 whence he purchased an interest in the Clefton Plumbing & Heating Company, of Owatonna, with C. J. Clefton. February 1, 1910, they changed from a copartnership to a corporation and are now known as the Clefton Company; Guy J. Clefton acting as general manager and treasurer. They sell both wholesale and retail all kinds of plumbing, heating, gas and electric supplies, and are doing an extensive and constantly growing business in that line.

The subject of this sketch was married January 5, 1898, at Owatonna to Ora Z. Barncard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Z. Barncard, who now reside at St. Paul. Mr. Clefton is a staunch Republican. He with his family belong to the Universalist church. He is prominent in fraternal circles, belonging to the Masons, B. P. O. E., K. of P., and the Commercial Club. Mr. Clefton takes an active interest in public life, and is now serving as alderman of the first ward. He has a pleasant residence at 213 East School street.

**William P. Canfield**, proprietor of the Canfield School of Business, Owatonna, was born in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, September 16, 1864. He is a son of J. Marshal and Mary (Mills) Canfield, natives of New York and Kentucky respectively, who came to Iowa in the early sixties, locating at Cedar Rapids. The father was engaged in the manufacture of woolen goods until



GUY J. CLEFTON



after the Civil War when he established a dyeing and cleaning business. He died December 3, 1906. The mother survived him and passed away September 5, 1909. William P. received his early education in the public schools of Cedar Rapids, which was supplemented by a course at the Epworth Seminary, Coe College and a course at the Cedar Rapids Business College, graduating from the latter institution in January, 1885. His talents were recognized and he was engaged as a teacher in the commercial department of the above named institution, which position he filled for two years. He then went to Richmond, Virginia, where he was engaged as teacher in the Smithdeal Business College for a short period. He then established a business as an expert accountant, remaining in Richmond until 1891. Owing to illness he returned to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where he went to work for the Goodyear Publishing Company, remaining in their employ for six months, after which he went to Stillwater, Minn., and conducted the Stillwater Business College. He remained here until the fall of 1897, whence he moved to Owatonna and established the Canfield School of Business, which he has conducted with success ever since. Mr. Canfield was married September 7, 1888, at Bromley, Marshall county, Iowa, to Mary Moore. Five children have blessed their union, viz: Ross M.; Paul M.; Faith P.; Dwight R.; Wyne W., all living with their parents. Mr. Canfield affiliates with the Prohibition party. He worships at the Methodist-Episcopal church. He is also a member of the I. O. O. F. The family reside at 512 East Main street. Mr. Canfield is a loyal citizen, a progressive educator, and has built up his institution by hard work and persevering effort.

**William B. Clarkson**, a hustling and progressive citizen of Owatonna, Minnesota, was born July 16, 1862, in Bond county, Illinois. Shortly after his birth, his parents removed to Alton, Illinois, where he was educated in the public schools. Leaving school at the age of seventeen, he enlisted as an apprentice boy for the term of his minority in the United States navy, receiving an honorable discharge and continuous service certificate on his twenty-first birthday. He at once adopted the business of selling farm machinery and associated himself with his brother, James D., at Carthage, Missouri, severing his connections five years later to accept employment as a traveling salesman in the same line of business, and in this form of occupation he has been continuously employed to the present time. He is at present associated with the Gale-Monroe Company, of Minneapolis, Minn., in charge of their southeast Minnesota territory, and has made his home at Owatonna since September 1, 1906, residing at 357 East Broadway. The Masonic order claims him as a



valued member, and he is also identified with the order of United Commercial Travelers of America where his activities along fraternal lines have been mostly directed. At the time of this writing he is serving as Grand Junior Counselor in the Grand Council of Minnesota, the Dakotas, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, United Commercial Travelers of America, one of the highest offices in the gift of this organization, and a sincere testimonial to the rank he holds in his profession. September 29, 1886, at Nebraska City, Nebraska, he was married to Edith Eugenia Madison, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Madison, late of Nebraska City, since deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Clarkson have four children: Bessie Belle, a graduate of the Owatonna High school and the kindergarten department of the State Normal at Winona, Minn.; she is engaged in teaching; Carol Lowell, who is an assistant librarian of the Owatonna public library; Eugene Douglas, a student in the local High school; and Mildred Edith, also a student in the local High school. The family are loyal supporters of the Congregational church. James and Elizabeth (Douglas) Clarkson, parents of William B., were natives of England, the father being born in Yorkshire, and the mother in Newcastle. Emigrating to America in 1850, they first settled in McDonald county, Illinois, and in 1861 moved to Bond county, Illinois, near Greenville, the county seat, all of this time being engaged in farming until the fall of 1862 when they moved to Alton, Illinois, and entered the hotel business, in which they continued until after the close of the War of the Rebellion, later engaging in retail merchandising. Mr. James Clarkson (the father) passed over in 1874. Mrs. Elizabeth (Douglas) Clarkson (the mother) still survives, living at her home in Alton, Illinois.

**Levi A. Disbrow** is a real estate dealer at Owatonna, Minn. He was born at Alden in McHenry county, Illinois, June 15, 1848, to Nathan and Nancy (Battey) Disbrow, who were natives of the Empire state. His father, born in 1816, and a farmer by occupation, moved to Illinois in 1834. He was the first white man to make the trip from Chicago to the head of Lake Geneva with team, driving over the Indian trail and fording Fox river with the aid of Indians. He established a camp in the woods on the banks of Lake Geneva, building a log cabin, and there spent the winter of 1834-35. In the spring of 1835 he pre-empted a section of land near Alden in McHenry county, Illinois, and there established his home, experiencing all the hardships and privations and trials incident to pioneer life in a wild, unsettled country. But he persevered through all, and improved and cultivated his land and here carried on general farming for fifty years and yet lives to enjoy the fruits of his labors. He sold his possessions in 1895 and retired from work and now makes his

home with his son. He was an influential and leading man in his community and active in all matters looking to the development of the country, and took active part in the local affairs of the Republican party in its early history. His wife passed away in 1887. Levi A. grew to manhood on his father's farm and acquired a good common school education, and continued farming till he was twenty-six years old. In the summer of 1887 he built a creamery at Havana, Minn., which he conducted eight years, till his removal to Owatonna. Here he engaged in the manufacture of the combined churn and buttermakers some three years. For nine years following 1897, Mr. Disbrow gave his attention to the real estate trade. In 1906 he returned to the manufacturing business in connection with the Perfection Churn Manufacturing Company, but a little later sold his interests here and resumed buying, selling and dealing in real estate. Mr. Disbrow takes an active interest in fraternal societies, being identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Ancient Order of United Workmen. He is a Republican in his political opinions and action and in religious belief holds to the faith of the Methodist-Episcopal Church. On March 14, 1888, Mr. Disbrow married Mrs. Lothra Jones, widow of Mr. William Jones, deceased, and a daughter of Mr. Robert Hatley, of Havana, Illinois. Of two children born to Mr. and Mrs. Disbrow, the eldest, Roy R., is deceased and Archie S. lives with his parents.

**Judge Francis A. Dunham** of the Owatonna Municipal court, has taken an active interest in the growth and progress of Owatonna and Steele county. His articles written to give an impetus to local industry have been of good effect, and his work in behalf of the various municipal interests of the city have been productive of satisfactory results. The part he has taken in public life is shown by the fact that he is at the present time serving as secretary of the Owatonna Commercial Club, secretary of the Steele County Street Fair Association, secretary of the Owatonna City Hospital Board (resigned, 1910, on account of press of other business,) and secretary of the Owatonna Business Men's Club. Francis A. Dunham was born in Faribault, Minn., March 1, 1875, son of Cornelius F. and Catherine Dunham, of English and Irish descent respectively. He spent his early boyhood in Owatonna, graduated from the Owatonna High school in 1897 and from 1898 to 1901 read law with the Hon. Thomas H. Quinn, at Faribault, being admitted to the bar in 1901. In 1903 he purchased the law library from the late C. J. O'Brien, and became a member of the Disbrow, Kinney Land Company January 1, 1904. January 1, 1908, he purchased the insurance business of that company, and has been in business for himself since that time, enjoying a large patronage.

In 1908 he was elected judge of the municipal court of Owatonna, and his excellent work in behalf of the peace and order of the city won his election to succeed himself in 1910 without opposition.

**Harvey S. Dartt** is a wide-awake and influential citizen of Owatonna, Minnesota. A native of Green Lake county, Wisconsin, he was born June 16, 1866, to E. H. S. and Lucretia (Brooks) Dartt, who were natives of Vermont and Erie county, Pennsylvania, respectively. The father was a school teacher in early life and became a noted horticulturist. He went to Wisconsin in 1844, and lived there till 1869 when he settled with his family at Owatonna, where he entered the nursery business and later engaged in the real estate business and became the proprietor of Dartt's first and second addition to the city of Owatonna. Meantime he was interested in horticulture and conducted an experimental station for the state until his decease, which occurred June 30, 1903. The mother passed away January 21, 1876. Harvey S. attended the public schools at Owatonna and graduated from the high school there with the class of 1886 and then turned his attention to civil engineering which he has since followed with marked success at Owatonna, where he has continuously lived, with the exception of nine years, during which he traveled for the Northwest Publishing Company, of Des Moines, Iowa. Mr. Dartt made the surveys for the Crane Creek ditch in Steele and Waseca counties and also for Judicial District No. 1 of Dodge county. Mr. Dartt is decidedly a man of affairs and has filled numerous public offices at Owatonna. He has served as mayor of the city, as alderman two terms, two terms as county surveyor and three years as city surveyor, and has been a member of the Owatonna Hospital Board. He stands high in fraternal orders, being identified with the local Masonic lodge, Knights of Pythias, Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen of America. In politics he adheres to Republican principles. On August 26, 1896, Mr. Dartt married Ella M. Haworth, whose parents, Howard and Margaret (Shelton) Haworth, removed from Indiana, their native state, to Fort Dodge, Iowa, where they now reside. Mr. and Mrs. Dartt have four children, viz: Mabel L., Donna Emir, Walter Scott and Harvey S., Jr., all of whom live at home with their parents.

**Christ P. Fynskov**, a prominent merchant of Owatonna, was born at Madison, Wisconsin, July 24, 1875, son of Peter J. and Mary W. Fynskov, natives of Denmark. They emigrated to America in 1875, locating at Madison, Wisconsin, where they remained for a short time. In 1877 they came to Steele county, driving the whole distance by team, they located in Marton

township, Steele county, where three years later the father purchased forty acres of land and engaged in general farming for five years. He then sold this first farm and bought eighty acres in Havana township; some years later making an additional purchase of eighty acres in Merton township where he was engaged in farming until 1902. He then sold the farm and went to Douglass county where he bought land; he also bought land in Todd county adjoining the land in Douglass county, making a farm of 270 acres, which he still tills. They were the parents of nine children, viz: James, contractor and builder of Detroit, Michigan; Christ P., the subject of this sketch; Andrew, a retired sheep-ranch man, now of Detroit, Michigan; Mary, now Mrs. Albert Borderson, of Sebeka, Minnesota; Hans, a ranchman in Dakota; Anna, now Mrs. Segward Peterson, of St. Paul; Henry, Martin and Ernest, who are all residing with their parents.

The subject of this sketch received his early education in the district schools of Steele county. Then came to Owatonna where he learned the baker's trade; later he became engaged with the Robson Company, of Owatonna, who were conducting a dry goods store. He remained with this firm for sixteen years, ten years of which time he was department manager and buyer. On November 22, 1906, he formed a copartnership with a Mr. F. W. Simon. They opened a general store on South Cedar street where they built up a large business. The firm was known as Fynskov & Simon for three years; then Mr. George Webber purchased Mr. Simon's interest and the business has since been conducted under the firm name of Fynskov & Webber. They are both very enterprising and popular young men, doing a thriving and increasing business. Mr. Fynskov was married June 22, 1898, at Owatonna, to Helen, daughter of H. C. and Lena (Peterson) Larson, natives of Denmark, who emigrated to America in 1874, were married here and located in Lemond township, Steele county, where they have been engaged in farming ever since. They had seven children, namely, Theodore, who lives at Owatonna; Helen, wife of our subject, was born January 9, 1878; Walter, lives in Denver, Colorado; Mary, lives at Owatonna; Alfred, who lives at Mankato; Louis and Edith, who are residing at home. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Fynskov was blessed with two children, Stanley E., born March 25, 1900, and Lowell, born March 18, 1904. Mr. Fynskov is a Republican in politics and belongs to the Lutheran church. He also belongs to a number of fraternal organizations, viz: K. of P., A. O. U. W., B. A. Y. The family is domiciled in a pleasant residence at 309 South Cedar street.



**Henry F. Fritsch** was born in Europe, May 17, 1887, son of Frederick and Anna (Simper) Fritsch, natives, of Austria. They came to America in 1893 and located at Garner, Iowa, where they still reside. Henry F. received his education in Austria and came to America with his parents in 1893; he attended school at Garner for about three years and then entered the studio with his father and after he had learned the business formed a partnership with his father, and conducted a branch at Thompson, Iowa, for one year, when he sold out and bought a studio at Mason City, Iowa, in 1905, which he conducted for four years when he again sold out and came to Owatonna and purchased the old Mueller studio at 132 West Vine street. He is now the sole owner and proprietor and has met with marked success. He was married May 20, 1908, to Miss Adolphina Smith, of Garner, Iowa. In politics Mr. Fritsch is an independent voter, and in his religious belief he is Catholic. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. and of the K. of C. He makes his home at his studio on Vine street; he has won his success by his efforts and enjoys the respect of all who know him.

**Charles Green**, of Owatonna, was born in Pittsford, Rutland county, Vermont, May 28, 1853, son of Harvey and Sophia (Segar) Green, natives of Vermont. He came west with his parents in 1866, locating in Somerset township, Steele county, where the father purchased eighty acres of school land. He improved the land, built a home and followed general and diversified farming up to the time of his decease, March 2, 1874. The mother died March 13, 1900. Charles received his early education in the district schools of Somerset township. After leaving school, he worked at Faribault and Owatonna. In 1889 he was elected city marshal, which position he filled for seven consecutive years. He then purchased a farm in Medford township and engaged in agricultural pursuits for a period of five years. At this time he sold the farm, came to the city of Owatonna and bought an interest, with Mr. Jefferson, in the livery and city bus line business. This business relation continued until 1901, when they took in a third partner, Mr. Twiford. They have built up a large trade making a specialty of the livery business. Their efficient service is recognized and they are popular among the traveling public. Mr. Green was married October 11, 1884, to Mary Layman, who died July 24, 1894, leaving four children in the care of her husband, viz: Ellen S., born October 15, 1885, married H. H. Peavey of Redwood Falls, Minnesota; George H., born March 24, 1888, died May 13, 1900; Nora M., born July 29, 1890, lives at home; Robert R., born February 18, 1894, also lives with his father. Mr. Green married a second time at Owatonna September 1, 1895, to Carrie S. Pratt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs.



Pratt. Their union is blessed with two children, viz: Alice J., born March 26, 1897; Mary J., born February 25, 1899. Mr. Green is a Democrat. In religious faith he adheres to the Universalist church. He is also prominent in fraternal circles, being a member of the I. O. O. F., the B. P. O. E., the M. W. A., the W. O. W., the A. O. U. W. and the F. O. E. He is a loyal and highly respected citizen and has twice served his city as mayor. The family lives in a pleasant residence located at 506 South Cedar street.

**C. Hudson Gordon**, the leading photographer of Owatonna, has received high encomiums for his excellent and artistic work, taking, as he does, an æsthetic as well as commercial interest in his chosen line. He was born in Summit township, Steele county, June 4, 1875, son of Charles S. and Viola A. (Sheldon) Gordon. He received his education in the public schools, and after leaving school engaged in the grocery business with his father. In 1899, after the grocery business was disposed of, he learned the art of photography and opened a studio, which he has since conducted, putting out work of the highest degree of excellence. Mr. Gordon was married January 30, 1901, to Alice Moran, daughter of Cornelius Moran, and to this union has been born one son, Charles Irving, November 7, 1909. Mr. Gordon is a Republican in politics and affiliates with the Masonic fraternity.

**J. D. Gordon**, and his worthy wife, were among the earlier settlers in Berlin township, Steele county, taking up their abode in that locality in 1857. Mr. Gordon was born in Lowville, Lewis county, New York, in 1823, and spent his early life in the East. After farming in Berlin township from 1858 to 1881, he and his wife moved to Owatonna and retired. Their golden wedding anniversary, celebrated January 26, 1907, was the occasion of universal rejoicing among their friends and relatives. But scarcely had the rejoicings died away, when on February 14, 1907, Mr. Gordon fell from a porch, and died March 9, at the age of eighty-four years. His wife is still living. Of their three children, C. S. died April 28, 1908; Anna L. is Mrs. A. J. Chamberlain and Henry died in 1901.

**Charles S. Gordon**, business man and farmer, now deceased, was born in Lowville, Lewis county, New York, son of J. D. Gordon. He came to Steele county with his parents in 1857, completed his education in the schools of Berlin township, and farmed for a number of years. In 1885 he moved to Owatonna, and engaged in the grocery business with his son, C. H., under the firm name of Gordon & Son. In 1899, the firm sold out, and C. S. Gordon retired. April 3, 1908, he was stricken with paralysis, and died April 28, 1908, at the age of 59 years. His

wife, Viola Sheldon, a native of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, whom he married in 1871, is still living. The sole fruit of this union is one son, C. Hudson Gordon, of Owatonna.

**Stephen C. Goff, Jr.**, clerk of court of Steele county, was born May 4, 1882, in Lemond township, Steele county, son of Stephen C. and Florence E. (Bemis) Goff, natives of the United States, of Scotch and English descent. The father came to Minnesota in 1879 and located in Dodge county, where he married. In 1881, he came to Steele county, locating in Lemond township, where he has been engaged in farming up to the present time. The subject of our sketch received his early education in the common schools of Steele county. After leaving school, he took up teaching as a profession, which he followed from 1902 to 1905. He then accepted a position as shipping clerk for the Owatonna Creamery Supply Company, in which position he was engaged until in July, 1906. At this time he was elected clerk of court of Steele county, which office he has now filled for four years. Mr. Goff was married May 4, 1909, at Owatonna, to Pearl M. Barnard, who died October 4, 1909. In politics Mr. Goff is Republican. In religious faith he affiliates with the Baptist church. He is prominent in fraternal circles, being a member of the K. of P., M. W. A., F. O. E. and the Commercial Club. Mr. Goff is a progressive young man. He has gained his position by his own efforts and his uncompromising honesty in discharging his duties as a public officer has won for him the confidence of the community as a good citizen, well liked by all who know him.

**Peter Ganser**, proprietor of the Owatonna City Brewery, is one of those substantial citizens, who, in building the foundations for their own fortunes, find the time to take an interest in all worthy causes that tend toward the development of the community. He combines liberality with shrewd common sense and business ability, and from his first settlement here he has had an unbounded faith in Owatonna's future. Mr. Ganser was born in Prussia, Germany, June 24, 1836. He received his early education in the public schools and remained in his native country until 1854, when he came to America and located in Dane county, Wisconsin, where he lived for a time and then went to California. In 1863 he returned to Wisconsin and there remained until 1865 when he came to Owatonna and, together with his brother, Adam, purchased the city brewery, which they continued together until 1872, at which time the brother died. The subject of this sketch then became the sole owner and proprietor. In 1878 the brewery was destroyed by fire, entailing a loss of about \$12,000. Undaunted by this loss, Mr. Ganser rebuilt, but in 1884 again suffered a similar disaster. The present

building, to which additions and improvements have been made from time to time, was erected in 1884. In 1879, Mr. Ganser, in company with Jacob Glaeser, erected the building then known as the Germania Hall. Mr. Ganser has carried on a large and increasing business from year to year. In 1894 he sold out his business and for six years lived a retired life. In 1900 he again came into possession of the brewery, which he has since conducted. Mr. Ganser was married in 1867 to Mary Knight, who was born in Indiana. The fruit of this union was three children, viz: Margaret, now the wife of William Fleckenstein of the Fleckenstein Brewery at Faribault; Adeline, now Mrs. W. C. Zamboni; Kate, now Mrs. H. D. Brown, of Owatonna. Mr. Ganser is a Democrat in political faith. He takes an active interest in public affairs, and served as a mayor of Owatonna one term, and alderman of the fourth ward for two years. Mr. Ganser is a self-made man, enterprising in business, and has won his position by persevering efforts. He lives in a very fine residence at 508 South Oak street.

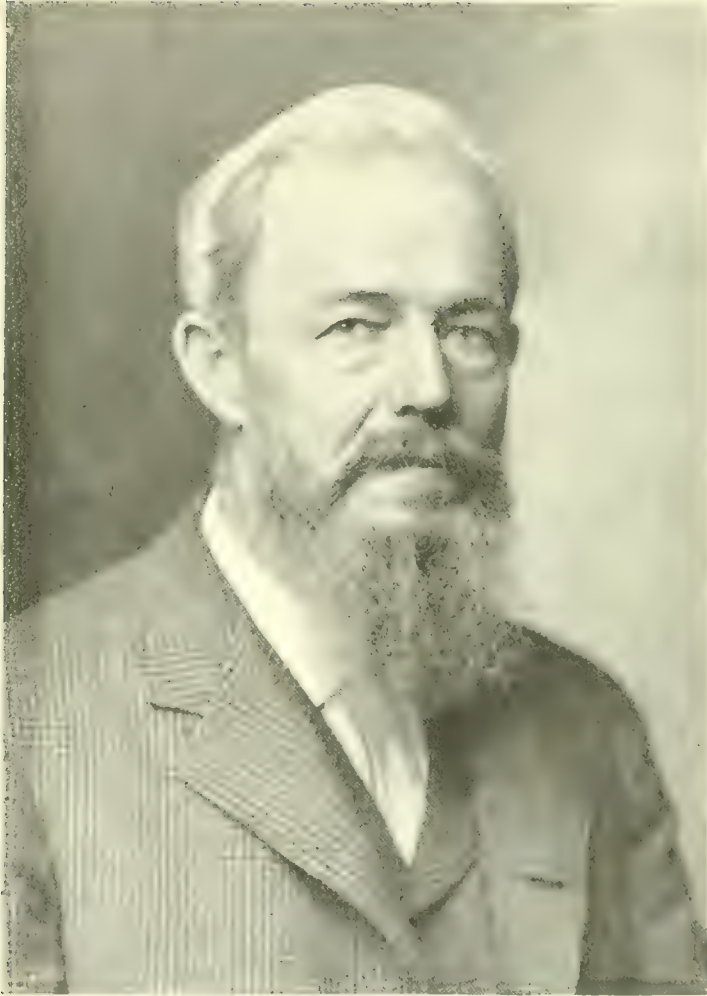
**Thomas Y. Hostad**, a successful real estate dealer of Owatonna, was born in Norway, August 30, 1876, son of Thomas and Gertrude Hostad, also natives of that country. The parents emigrated to America in 1877, and located in Dodge county, Minnesota, where the father followed agricultural pursuits until 1887. They then removed to Westfield township and continued farming operations until 1906, in which year they died, the mother December 22, and the father December 24, both being laid at rest in the same grave. Thomas Y. received his early education in the district schools of Dodge county, and in the Blooming Prairie high school, this training being supplemented with a course at Darling's College, at Rochester, and one at Breckenridge College, at Decorah, Iowa. He then studied one and a half years under Attorney Littleton, of Owatonna, and subsequently took a correspondence course with the Chicago Law School. After following the occupation of bookkeeper at Blooming Prairie for a time, he opened a hotel, with livery and feed stables in connection, at Kenyon, Minnesota, in 1897. He sold this business in August of the same year and moved to Owatonna. Later in the season he went to Claremont, Dodge county, and purchased a stock of furniture and hardware, in connection with which business he had the agency for the McCormick farm machinery. He continued this business with success for one year and a half, then sold out, retaining the hardware department. This was soon burned, causing a loss of over \$1,600. His next venture was at Blooming Prairie, where he engaged in the general merchandise business with his brothers and C. P. Stevens, the firm name being Hostad Brothers &

Stevens. In January, 1900, the subject of this sketch sold out his interest in this concern, and accepted a position as manager for a retail shoe store in the same village, a position he retained one and a half years. Next he clerked for a similar period in Owatonna, and then took charge of the closing out of the Shea stock of clothing, conducting sales in Owatonna, Wells, Minnesota Lake and Blue Earth. Subsequently he again clerked for a short period, and then embarked in the real estate business, in which he has been most successful. His office is in the Parrott and Smith building, and here are handled various lines of real estate, insurance and abstracts in considerable volume. Mr. Hostad affiliates with the Republican party and belongs to the Norwegian Lutheran church. He is an enterprising business man and a good citizen, taking an active interest in everything that tends toward the progress of the community. November 7, 1895, he was married at Owatonna to Elizabeth M. Mason, of Blooming Prairie. This union was blessed with two children, Edna L. and Vera G. November 10, 1909, Mr. Hostad married Elizabeth A. Ochs, of Owatonna.

**Hobert W. Hutchinson** was born in Andover, Windsor county, Vermont, May 7, 1834, son of Moses W. and Parynthia (Dodge) Hutchinson, also natives of Vermont, where they were engaged in agricultural pursuits all their lives. The subject of our sketch received his early education in Andover, and when nineteen years of age, came West, locating in Wisconsin. Two years later, in 1855, he came to Steele county, where he filed on 160 acres of land. He made final proof of this land and in 1857 returned to Wisconsin. There he joined the union army, Company I, Thirty-second Regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, August 15, 1862. He served with this regiment until June, 1865, being honorably discharged at Washington, after which he returned to Wisconsin and remained there until 1866. He then came back to Steele county and engaged in farming on his claim, which he had filed on in 1855 in Owatonna township. He remained here until 1894, when he sold eighty acres of the claim and removed to Owatonna village, where he has lived a retired life since. Mr. Hutchinson was married October 6, 1862, to Percilla W. Benedict. She died January 24, 1867. He was married a second time December 10, 1871, to Mrs. Augusta (Lord) Pound. She died March 12, 1902. She had two sons by her first marriage, Charles L. Pound, of Owatonna, and William O. Pound, of Billings, Montana. Mr. Hutchinson believes in the principles of the Republican party, but never has aspired to public office. He is a consistent member of the Universalist church, and on account of his distinguished war record, has allied himself with the James A. Goodwin Post, G. A. R. The







THOMAS J. HOWE.

subject of this sketch is an estimable citizen in every respect, and has made his way in life unaided by outside influences. His pleasant home is located at 209 East Broadway in Owatonna. Although past the allotted "three score years and ten," Mr. Hutchinson is hale and hearty, and his judgment upon all important matters is highly valued by his friends.

**Carl G. Herold**, a progressive business man of Owatonna, was born in Germany, August 28, 1875. His parents, Jacob and Christina Herold, natives of Germany, left the shore of Europe to seek the larger opportunities and establish a home in the new world, in 1882, locating first at Owatonna and later going to Todd county, where they have been engaged in farming ever since. Carl received his early education in the public schools of Owatonna. After leaving school, he took up and learned the tinning and plumbing trade, which he followed until 1905. At this time he formed a copartnership with L. A. Schoen, establishing a plumbing and heating business. This business relation continued for two years, when Mr. Herold purchased his partner's interest in the firm, and then took as a partner Mr. J. W. Harty. The firm is now known as Herold & Harty, heating, plumbing, electrical and gas supplies. Mr. Herold was married September 16, 1899, to Bertha Buboltz. They reside in a pleasant residence at 408 Riverside avenue.

He is a member of the order of I. O. O. F. Mr. Herold has made his way in the world by his own efforts and perseverance. He is a good citizen, well liked by all who know him, and the fact that he enjoys a large trade is proof of his business integrity.

**Thomas J. Howe**, a prominent manufacturer, now deceased, had an important part in the industrial upbuilding of Owatonna, and established the business which under the present name of the Owatonna Manufacturing Company has grown to wide proportions. He was for many years a familiar figure in and about Owatonna, where he was a leading citizen. Just to all and affable to his friends, he established for himself an enviable reputation in the community. His death was deeply mourned and his life and work will be long remembered. Thomas J. Howe was born in Pinckney, New York, January 15, 1827, son of Gideon and Mary (Jeffers) Howe, natives of Jefferson county, New York. After receiving a common school education, he learned the business of woodworking in a mill owned by his father. In 1848, he came west to Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, where he was employed at various occupations. Some ten years later, Mr. Howe entered the employ of J. S. Rowell & Co. in the manufacture of grain drills and seeders, the plant being located at Beaver Dam. This business occupied Mr. Howe's attention

until 1865 when he came to Owatonna, and in company with Michael F. Lowth, established a plant for the manufacture of grain drills and seeders. As noted above, this plant has now developed an important industry. Mr. Howe was a member of the Universalist church and a high degree Mason. In 1873 he was persuaded to serve as mayor, and so successful was his administration of public affairs that he was reelected in 1874 and 1875 with no opposition. He also did able service on the high school and library boards for many years. August 27, 1908, he departed this life, and his body was followed to its last resting place by a large concourse of sorrowing mourners. The subject of this sketch was married at Watertown, New York, May 6, 1861, to Sarah M. Chapman, who died July 3, 1893. To this union three children were born. Fannie was born April 29, 1864, and died when six months of age. Jessie B. was born July 29, 1865, married George S. Barr and has one child, Virginia. Harry C., born November 16, 1873, is secretary and treasurer of the Owatonna Manufacturing Company. In September, 1903, Thomas J. Howe married Matilda S. Lieb, who survives him.

**Harry C. Howe** is closely identified with the manufacturing interests of Owatonna, in which city he was born November 16, 1873, to Thomas J. and Sarah M. (Chapman) Howe. He received his education in the public and high schools of his native town, graduating from the Owatonna High school in 1890. In the fall of that year he entered the state university, and was diligently pursuing his course, when, in 1893, his assistance was demanded at his father's office at the plant of the Owatonna Manufacturing Company. Here he started as bookkeeper, gaining knowledge of every detail of the business, until in 1903 he was elected secretary of the company, which position he still holds, and in 1910 was elected secretary and treasurer. From 1898 until 1903, Mr. Howe served as first lieutenant of Company I, Second Regiment, Minnesota National Guards. He was in the line of promotion to the captaincy, but was forced to resign by reason of the increase of his manufacturing interests. Mr. Howe is well liked in Owatonna, and is regarded as one of the rising young men of the community. He was married June 20, 1900, to Jane Semple, daughter of Samuel and Mary (Milliken) Semple. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Howe has been blessed with two children: Sarah C., born November 10, 1901, and Samuel S., born October 4, 1909. The family faith is that of the Episcopal church. Mr. Howe is affiliated with the Masonic order, being a member of the Blue Lodge, chapter and commandery.

**The Owatonna Manufacturing Company** was started in 1865 as a partnership between Michael F. Lowth and Thomas J.

Howe, the firm name being Lowth & Howe. In 1873, H. N. LaBare purchased one-half of Mr. Lowth's interest, and the firm continued until 1878 under the name of Lowth, Howe & LaBare. At this time, Mr. Lowth disposed of his interest, and the name was changed to Howe & Co. August 20, 1888, the company was incorporated under the name of the Owatonna Manufacturing Company. D. J. Ames was elected president and T. J. Howe was elected secretary and treasurer. In 1898, Frank LaBare, son of H. N. LaBare, was elected president, and in 1903, Harry C. Howe, son of T. J. Howe, was elected secretary, T. J. Howe remaining as treasurer and general manager. The present officers are: Frank LaBare, president; Geo. S. Barr, vice-president; H. C. Howe, secretary and treasurer. The company manufactures grain drills and seeders and a combined churn and butter worker for creamery use.

**Hon. Hector M. Hastings** was one of the prominent millers of Minnesota and was universally esteemed both for his qualities as a man and his ability as a promoter. He was born in the little town of Horseheads, Chemung county, New York, in 1835. There he was reared to sturdy boyhood, receiving such advantages as the district schools of the neighborhood afforded. During this period surrounded by the love of a devoted mother and the care of a just father he laid the foundation of that staunch character which was to individualize his after-life. At the age of twelve years, in 1847, he was taken by his parents to Illinois. While there, he was married in 1854 to Mary A. Roberts who proved a loving and faithful companion throughout his life. Two years later the young couple decided to try their fortunes in what was then the new Northwest and accordingly settled near Elysian, in LeSueur county. There they were residing during the great Sioux outbreak of 1862. Mr. Hastings' conduct during that trying period illustrated the indomitable and vigorous character of the man. First bringing his family to Owatonna for safety he then proceeded to buy all the powder in the community, amounting probably to one keg. With this he set out in a sulky to join Colonel Brackett's force, which was then proceeding against the Indians. Alone he traveled through the country and finally joined the command somewhere near the present site of St. Peter. He took part in the battle of Fort Ridgely from which he escaped unharmed. Later he witnessed the hanging of the thirty-eight Sioux ringleaders at Mankato. With this experience he sought to enlist in the Civil War, but was refused on account of a slight physical disability. In 1863 Mr. Hastings moved to Steele county and settled in Lemond township where, in time, he acquired over two thousand acres of land. In 1885 he formed a partnership with O. E. Edson and



W. H. Willsey to go into the milling business under the firm name of H. M. Hastings & Company, purchasing the Reidell mill. Shortly afterward Mr. Willsey's interest was purchased by the Hon. J. M. Diment. The mill was destroyed by fire in 1891, but such a disaster, great as it was, the property being uninsured, did not discourage such energetic and forceful business men as Mr. Hastings and his partner. They took Lynard Virtue into partnership and the firm became Hastings, Diment & Company. This concern purchased the old Beynon & Maes mill building, which they remodeled, refitted and enlarged. The business prospered and the fame of the mill grew until the name of the Hastings flour became known throughout this country and abroad, considerable quantities being shipped to England. The firm underwent some changes in 1897 when Mr. Hastings bought out his partners and changed the firm name to The Hastings Milling Company. But shortly afterward Mr. Virtue again bought an interest.

Operated for a time by the estate after Mr. Hastings' death and eventually was sold to L. G. Campbell Milling Company.

Mr. Hastings was a man of strong individuality. Trained amid the hardships and exigencies of early frontier life, he acquired a decision of manner and speech sometimes seemingly blunt, yet, on acquaintance proving a valued quality as men of plain and fearless speech are rare. He left no doubt in the mind of the hearer as to where he stood on any question and his energetic decision in business matters soon caused him to tower above most of his fellows as a successful man. He had many excellent qualities of mind and heart of which his liberality to the poor and the unfortunate deserves special notice. A staunch Democrat in politics, he was a delegate to nearly every Democratic state convention, and in 1879 he served with distinction in the legislature. Aside from his milling interests he was president of the Central Dakota Telephone Company. Mr. Hastings died May 7, 1899. He was survived by three children, George W. Hastings, Mrs. Ida Slaid and Mrs. G. F. Cardoff.

Mrs. Mary Adelia Hastings, wife of the Hon. H. M. Hastings, was one of Steele county's pioneer women and was held in high esteem by all who knew her. She was a true type of that admirable class of women—the wives of pioneers. Devoted to her husband, bright, unselfish and ambitious, she labored unceasingly and happily to found a home, to care properly for her family and to advance its material and spiritual fortunes. The important share which such women have in the success attained by their husbands cannot be overestimated, and it is certain that Mrs. Hastings proved a rare helpmate to her husband all her married life. She was an unusually bright woman and found

her greatest happiness in searching out and performing such duties as she believed fell within her scope of action. One of her most prominent characteristics was the happiness and cheeriness of her disposition, which lightened the labors of all near her as well as her own. A reply she made not long before her death, in answer to the remarks that the early days must have been hard ones for women coming out into a new country to find homes, was characteristic of her. She declared that those early days of hard work and privation were the happiest of all. Even when sickness had laid its heavy hand upon her, Mrs. Hastings lost not one whit of her cheerfulness and hopefulness and to the last viewed the future with happy optimism as a place of joy and peace. This fact is believed to have prolonged her life past the time when the average woman would have succumbed to the cares of life and to the weight of years. It is not strange that such a woman should have won respect and confidence even though she was of a retiring rather than of a naturally sociable disposition. Mrs. Hastings' maiden name was Mary Adelia Roberts. She was born in Pennsylvania, September 17, 1837. While she was yet a small child the family removed to Rockford, Illinois, where in later years she met Mr. Hastings and became his wife. Aside from the three children mentioned above Mr. and Mrs. Hastings had a son, Frank, who died in early youth. Mrs. Hastings passed to the Great Beyond May 1, 1903, and her death caused a vacancy in the hearts of friends and relatives which will never be filled until the Last Resurrection.

**S. M. Hastings** was one of the early settlers of Steele county, having come from Illinois in 1857. He was a native of New York where little more than half of his life was spent, emigrating from there to Illinois in 1849. He lived to be one of the oldest residents of the county, and was highly respected by his many friends. He died in 1886.

**Thomas L. Slaid**, who, after giving unusual promise of becoming one of the leaders in the business life of this vicinity, was cut off in the prime of his young manhood, was a native of Wisconsin, born at Beaver Dam, March 8, 1853. His parents, Oscar and Emily (Ingraham) Slaid, were both natives of Massachusetts. In 1844 they went to Wisconsin and there remained until 1869, when they moved their family to Iowa. The father died in Dumont, Iowa, in 1905, and the mother passed away in 1884. Thomas L. received his early education in the public schools of Wisconsin and Iowa. After leaving school he came to Owatonna from Ackley, Iowa, in 1874, and entered the employ of Buxton & McReynolds, Mr. Buxton being his uncle. He continued in this employ and some three years before his death was taken into the firm as a full partner. The firm was doing a

large business in the sale of agricultural implements and hardware at the time of his untimely death, which occurred February 12, 1881. In politics Mr. Slaid was a Republican. He affiliated with the Odd Fellows. Mr. Slaid was married October 13, 1880, to Ida L. Hastings, a daughter of H. M. and Mary Adelia (Roberts) Hastings. To this union one child, a daughter, Thomasia A., was born August 22, 1881. She was married December 28, 1904, to C. A. Tincher, and to this union one child, Richard S., was born December 25, 1906. Her death, April 2, 1907, caused profound mourning among those to whom her winning ways and lovable character had enshrined her in their hearts.

**Louis F. Hammel**, the well-known contractor and builder, is giving the city of Owatonna an able administration in the mayor's chair. He is a native of Bayfield county, Wisconsin, and was born October 1, 1862. After completing his school days in Owatonna, to which city his parents moved in 1864, he joined his father in the contracting business, the firm continuing until the latter's death. From that time until October 1, 1909, Louis F. and John L. Hammel conducted the same business, under the firm name of Hammel Brothers, general contractors and builders. Mr. Hammel is a practical man of affairs and has filled various local offices, having served eight years as alderman from the Fourth ward of Owatonna and six months as acting mayor before being elected to his present position in March, 1909. In the latter office he succeeded himself one year later. He has also done good service on the library board. The Democratic party has found in Mr. Hammel a loyal supporter, and in religious faith he holds to the tenets of the Presbyterian Church. He is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America and also with the Masons, U. C. T., and the Modern Workmen. On June 20, 1889, Mr. Hammel married Celia, daughter of William and Ann (Hartbecker) Severin, and this union has been blessed with five children: Irwin William, Louis, Maria, Sidney and Kenneth. The parents of Mrs. Hammel came from Germany, their native land, and settled at Cedar Falls, Iowa, where the father died and where the mother now resides. John C. and Maria (Steagut) Hammel, parents of Louis F. Hammel, were both natives of Germany. The father, who was a contractor and builder, settled in Wisconsin in 1854, and ten years later removed to Owatonna, where he followed his regular occupation a quarter of a century, passing away in 1889. The mother died in 1871.

**Fred H. Joesting**, proprietor of the Emporium store, Owatonna, was born at La Porte, Ind., January 5, 1870. He is the son of Fredrick and Catherine (Voebert) Joesting, natives of Germany. They immigrated to the United States in 1863, locating at La Porte, Ind., where the father was engaged in railroad



L. F. HAMMEL





work until 1880. He then removed to St. Paul, Minn., where he had charge of city parks up to the time of his death, in August, 1893. The mother returned to La Porte, Ind., where she now resides. The subject of this sketch received his early education at the public schools of La Porte and St. Paul. In 1883 he began life as a salesman in a dry goods house at St. Paul. In 1892 the firm opened a branch store at Little Falls, Minn. There Mr. Joesting became manager, in 1900. The firm became incorporated, with Mr. Joesting as secretary and treasurer, which position he filled with honor until 1905. He then sold his interest and came to Owatonna, where he opened the Emporium Department Store, of which he is sole owner and proprietor. He conducts an up-to-date establishment in every respect, and the fact that he enjoys a large and steadily increasing patronage proves his ability and honest dealings as a merchant. On June 19, 1899, Mr. Joesting was married, at La Porte, Ind., to Minnie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Decker, who are now living with Mr. and Mrs. Joesting, in Owatonna. Mrs. Joesting was born at La Porte, June 5, 1875. Five children have blessed their home, viz.: Theodore, born at Little Falls, July 11, 1900; Fredrick H., born in the same place, July 15, 1903; Herbert A. was born at Little Falls, Minn., April 17, 1905; Clement H., born in Owatonna, April 17, 1907, and Regina E., born May 6, 1909. Mr. Joesting is a Republican in politics. In religious faith he belongs to the German Lutheran Church. The family resides at 227 East Mill street, Owatonna.

**Richard H. Jahreiss**, of Owatonna, was born in Germany, November 6, 1873, son of Leonard and Margaret Jahreiss (deceased). The parents spent their lives in their native land. Richard received his early education in Germany. He then took up and learned the cabinetmaker's trade. He immigrated to America when a boy of about seventeen years of age, in 1891. After arriving in America, he located in Owatonna, where he entered the employment of Fred Hagedorn. He continued to work at his trade here for five years. He then tended bar until 1903, when he entered the employment of Hammel Brothers, contractors, as foreman of their factory, which position he still retains. Mr. Jahreiss was married November 13, 1894, at Owatonna, to Mary, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Smith. Her father is deceased; the mother still lives in Owatonna. Three children blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Jahreiss, viz.: Ella, born June 26, 1896; Edwin, Edna, born June 26, 1900. The children are all attending school in Owatonna. Mr. Jahreiss is Democratic in his political views. The family attends the Presbyterian Church. He is a member of the F. O. E. and Mystic Workers. He is also a member of the Owatonna fire department.

The family lives in a pleasant residence at 122 West School street. Mr. Jahreiss is an enterprising business man, a hard worker, and has made his way in the world by his own efforts.

**Michael H. Keefe**, marble and granite worker of Owatonna, was born in Bombay township, Franklin county, N. Y., July 25, 1851, son of David and Elizabeth (Gardner) Keefe, natives of Ireland. The father came to America in 1840, locating in New York, where he engaged in farming. The mother emigrated to this country in 1847. The father was a stone mason and contractor, which trade he followed together with farming both in New York state and after coming to Minnesota. They moved to Minnesota in 1863, locating on a farm in Freeborn county, where they remained until 1896, when the father retired from active life and moved with his family to Austin, Minn., where he passed away December 13, 1905. The mother died May 28, 1873. Michael received his early education in the district schools of New York state. He came to Minnesota with his parents when twelve years of age, and finished his education in the public schools of Austin. He then started life as a farmer in Blooming Prairie township, Steele county, where he owned 160 acres of land. He also owned considerable land in Freeborn county, but sold all except the 160 acres in Blooming Prairie, which he still looks after in connection with his business at Owatonna. He came to Owatonna in 1905, engaged in what is known as the Star Granite & Marble Works, and has since conducted a prosperous and constantly growing business. Mr. Keefe was married February 24, 1881, to Margaret L. Farrell. Seven children have been born to them, viz.: William R., who travels for his father; Charles J., who lives at Kenmare, N. D.; Mary J., deceased; Florence, deceased, and George B., Margaret and John, residing at home. Mr. Keefe has made his way in the world by dint of hard work and persevering effort. He is a generous neighbor, a good husband, a loving father and a good citizen. He has served Blooming Prairie township as supervisor for several years, and as assessor for five consecutive years. He helped to organize the school district of which he served as clerk. Mr. Keefe is an independent voter. He adheres to the Catholic faith; is a member of the Knights of Columbus and the M. B. A.

**S. Grant Kinney**, of the firm of Disbrow & Kinney, has interested himself in the upbuilding of the county and is a thorough believer in the future possibilities of the agricultural resources of this vicinity. He was born in Lemond township, this county, May 24, 1869, and received his earlier education in the district schools, supplemented by wide reading and ideal home training. His father, an advocate of higher education for boys, sent him to Pillsbury Academy, from which he graduated in 1888.

At once upon graduation he took up work on the home farm, and there remained until 1895, when he went to Canby, Minn., and after a short period as a farm machine agent there, went on the road as a salesman for nursery stock, in which capacity his genial nature and knowledge of Northwestern farm conditions won him success and friends. Early in 1897 he was recalled to Steele county by the death of his father, and until late in 1898 he looked after the family farm and estate. Subsequently he again went on the road, selling nursery stock two years for the Cannon Falls Nursery Company. In the meantime he purchased a tract of land in Dodge county, which he gave more or less of his attention. In seeing the opportunity for a live real-estate agency in this locality, he started in that line of business, with L. A. Disbrow for a partner. The office of this firm is in the Kelley Block on Broadway, where is done a large business in real estate and insurance. Mr. Kinney also handles nursery stock for O. F. Brand, of Faribault. Aside from various holdings in the county, Mr. Kinney owns stock in the Dan Patch Air Line Company. He is an independent voter and a member of the I. O. O. F. and the M. W. A. The family affiliates with the Universalist Church. Mr. Kinney has never cared to engage actively in politics, but at one time he consented to serve as assessor of the township of Owatonna. His residence is at 219 East Mill street. S. S. Kinney was married February 29, 1904, to Sadie Shank, of St. Paul. To this union has been born one daughter, Leona M., July 22, 1905.

**Judge Willis E. Kenyon**, judge of probate for Steele county, is serving his first term in this position, and has already demonstrated his fitness for the office. He wisely adjudicates the matters which are brought before his court, and has given general satisfaction to the people at large. Willis E. Kenyon was born in Chautauqua county, New York, November 5, 1852, son of Thomas and Mary (Smith) Kenyon, the former an early physician of Steele county. The subject of this sketch secured his early education in the public schools of his neighborhood, and after leaving school engaged in farming for six years in Summit township. He then purchased eighty acres in Somerset township and there followed general farming until 1903, when he sold his farm and moved to Owatonna. In the fall of 1908 he was elected to his present position. This, however, is not the only public service he has rendered his county. He served five years as assessor of the township of Summit and one year as chairman of the same town. For three years he was assessor of the township of Somerset. Being interested in the advancement of the interests of the farmers, he served seven years as secretary of the River Point creamery. Judge Kenyon was married Janu-

ary 10, 1884, to Annie Schweiso, and to this union have been born five children: Nellie M. is a public school teacher; Jessie M. is also a teacher; Irvin W., Orrissa M. and Ferna A. are students in the Owatonna high school. The family residence is beautifully located at 233 East University street.

**Dr. Thomas Kenyon** was one of the pioneer physicians of Steele county, and his qualities as a man as well as his ability as a physician merit the high esteem in which his memory is held. He was born in New York state, November 29, 1812, being the oldest of a family of thirteen children. His schooling and his medical education were received in New York state, and there he practiced until 1856, when he came to Steele county and located in Somerset township. Here he engaged in farming, and also practiced his profession, being of the true type of rugged country physician. Some years before his death, which occurred April 17, 1882, he had retired from active practice. Dr. Kenyon was married August 18, 1833, to Mary Smith, born in New York, August 14, 1818. To this union were born ten children. Marion Ambrosia, who married Thomas J. Clark; Phoebe, who married George Crooker; Eliza, who married L. Robinson; Edgar, who married Allecia Twiford; Lois, who married S. Anderson; Walter, who married Abbie Smith; Willis, now judge of probate for Steele county; Frank, who married Sarah Hurlbert; Darwin, who married Dora Mitchell, and Fred, who married Minnie Schweiso. Mrs. Kenyon died January 10, 1906, and is laid at rest beside her husband in Somerset township.

**Emma A. Lewis**, a skilled practitioner of osteopathy, is the only member of her particular profession in Owatonna, and has won much favor among a wide circle of patients. Dr. Lewis was born in Junction City, Ore., April 11, 1876, daughter of John and Rhoda (Thompson) Lewis. She received her early education in the public schools, graduated from the high school at Allison, Iowa, and took courses in the Minnesota School of Business at Minneapolis and the State Normal School at Winona. In 1890, after a thorough preparation, she was graduated from the Northern Institute of Osteopathy at Minneapolis. Her first office was at Prairie du Chien, Wis., where she successfully practiced for two years. December 2, 1901, she came to Owatonna, and opened an office, her success being insured from the very start. Dr. Lewis has allied herself with the American and Minnesota Osteopathic Associations. She has kept well abreast of her times, not only in her own profession, but also in the professions closely allied to hers, and her wide circle of friends predict for her a successful future, even more felicitous than her past.

**John Lewis**, now living in retirement at Owatonna, was born in Indiana, and there spent his boyhood. He enlisted at Madi-



son, Wis., in Company K, Twelfth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served three years under General Sherman, being discharged at Chattanooga, Tenn. While in the army, Mr. Lewis contracted the typhoid fever, from the effects of which he has never fully recovered. His wife, Rhoda Thompson, is a native of Ohio. They are the parents of four children: Nelson H. is a physician at McDonald, Kan.; Emma A. is practicing at Owatonna; Zerelda is now Mrs. Charles I. Norman, of Minneapolis; and Emillie is now Mrs. George Flood, of Allison, Iowa.

**Peter Mallinger**, since 1866 a resident of Owatonna, with the exception of seven years' residence in Barnesville, this state, was born in Germany, and there spent his early life, embarking for America April 6, 1855. His first residence in this country was in Buffalo county, Wisconsin, where he was living at the outbreak of the Civil War. His excellent record during this conflict is appended below. At the close of the war, Lieutenant Mallinger returned to Wisconsin, and five months later, in the fall of 1866, he came to Owatonna, engaging in the mercantile business, which he continued until 1882, when his store was destroyed by fire. He then retired from active commercial life, but remained in Owatonna until 1900, when he removed to Banner City, Clay county, Minn., where he and his wife still reside. The Mallinger home has been blessed with six children: Anna, born July 29, 1868, is the wife of John Deviny, of Owatonna; Minnie, born February 11, 1870, is the wife of Michael Ryan, of Hillyard, Wash.; Adolph is chief of police at Owatonna; Gustav, born June 16, 1873, lives in Salt Lake City, Utah; Charles, born March 4, 1875, lives in Minneapolis, Minn.; Mary, born December 3, 1877, is now Mrs. William Pennman, of Detroit, Mich.

The following record is carefully preserved in the Mallinger family: "Certificate of Service. State of Wisconsin. Adjutant General's Office. No. 682, United States, 1895. This is to certify that the records of this office show that Peter Mallinger, late a sergeant in Company F, of the Ninth Regiment of Wisconsin Infantry Volunteers, was enrolled at La Crosse, Wis., on the 4th day of November, 1861, was mustered into the military service of the United States at Milwaukee, Wis., on the 13th day of November, 1861, for the term of three years, and was mustered out with Company at Milwaukee, Wis., on the 3d day of December, 1864; appointed corporal October 10, 1862; sergeant, January 1, 1863. The records further show that Peter Mallinger enlisted in Company K, Forty-eighth Regiment of Wisconsin Infantry, March 8, 1865, at Fountain City, Wis., was mustered into the U. S. service March 27, 1865, at Milwaukee, Wis., for one year; appointed first sergeant, April 5, 1865; commissioned sec-



ond lieutenant of the same company, November 9, 1865 (not mustered), and was mustered out as first sergeant with company, March 24, 1866, at Fort Leavenworth, Kan. The records further show that said soldier, when first enlisted, was twenty-five years old, had brown eyes, dark hair, dark complexion, was five feet ten inches in height, and by occupation a farmer. In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal, at the capitol in the City of Madison, this 26th day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-five. Worthie H. Patton, Acting Adjutant General."

**Adolph Mallinger**, head of the police force of Owatonna, has given the city excellent service in this capacity. Under his administration, the peace and order of the city has been excellently preserved, and the laws of the state have been duly observed. He was born in Owatonna, July 26, 1871, son of Peter and Cecelia (Buchstor) Mallinger, who were married July 13, 1866. He received his early education in the public schools of Owatonna, and at the age of nineteen years took up railroad work as brakeman for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, on the Iowa and Minnesota division. By hard work and strict attention to business he worked his way up, and in 1895 was promoted to conductor on the same division, continuing in that capacity until February, 1901, when he resigned. At this time, he was elected city marshal of Owatonna, which office he held two terms. In 1904 he accepted a position as traveling salesman for the Clinton Falls Nursery Company. This he followed until March, 1908, when he was appointed captain of the night police force, serving in this capacity until April 1, 1909, when he was again elected chief of police, which position he now holds. He was married April 5, 1890, at Owatonna, to Nettie Morgan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clark Morgan, of Owatonna. Mrs. Mallinger was born May 24, 1874. Their union was blessed with two children: Guy, born January 8, 1892, is a graduate of the high school of Owatonna, and is now an operator for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company, at the above place, which service he entered when seventeen years of age; Claude A., born September 11, 1895, is a student of the high school of Owatonna. In political faith Mr. Mallinger is a Republican. He and his family worship at the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is a member of the A. O. A. and Maccabees. He is a loyal and genial friend, a good neighbor, and a public-spirited citizen, taking an interest in every movement that has for its object the betterment of Owatonna and Steele county.

**Charles B. Misgen**, one of the prosperous merchants of Owatonna, and partner in the firm of Brick & Misgen, the well-known furniture and undertaking house, was born in Pierce

county, Wisconsin, April 5, 1859, son of John and Christine (Meyers) Misgen, who, before locating in Pierce county, came from Germany and lived for a time in Illinois. In 1863 they settled in Richland township, Rice county, and there became substantial and respected agriculturists. In 1873 they removed to Berlin township, Steele county, where they have since followed farming. Charles B. was educated in the district schools of Richland and in the Faribault high school, and after leaving school took up farming with his father until 1896, when he came to Owatonna and served for three years on the night police force. He was then elected as sheriff of Steele county, and served in that office for four years. Subsequently he became chief of police of Owatonna and held that position for four years. In 1909 he went to Sauk Center, Minn., and engaged in the restaurant and confectionery business for a short time, but returned to Owatonna and bought the interest of Mr. Busch in the furniture and undertaking business, the firm now being Brick & Misgen. He was married July 12, 1893, at Owatonna, to Mary Degnan, who died August 18, 1894. He was married a second time January 12, 1897, to Margaret Lonergan. Three children have been born to them: Harold, Glenerva and Herbert, all living at home with their parents. In his religious faith Mr. Misgen is a Catholic and in politics he is a Democrat. He is a member of the A. O. A. and of the E. F. U. By hard work and strict attention to business Mr. Misgen has won his success, and he has the respect and confidence of the citizens of Owatonna.

**James E. Malone**, the popular insurance agent of Owatonna, was born in Norway, Racine county, Wis., February 2, 1855. July 4, 1856, he came to Steele county, at the age of one year, with his parents. His early education was received in the schools of Merton township, and later he studied two years in the parochial school in Faribault. This, together with wide reading, prepared him for the profession of teaching, which he followed for three years. The succeeding eight years were spent on a farm. In 1892 he came to Owatonna, and for seven years engaged in the retail coal and wood business. This gave him a wide acquaintance, and in 1899 he determined to enter the insurance business. Accordingly he sold his other interests and opened an office. He now represents twelve companies and does a heavy business in fire, accident, tornado and plate glass insurance. Mr. Malone is a Democrat in politics, and while living on the farm served his township as treasurer of the school board and as a justice of the peace. He has been assessor of the city of Owatonna for the past nine years. At one time he was vice president of the First State Bank of Owatonna for three years. He also served a like period in Company E, Third Regiment, Minnesota National

Guard. Mr. Malone was married February 10, 1891, to Margaret Lonergan, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Lonergan, now deceased. Mr. Malone has had his share in the upbuilding of the county, and his opinions on public matters are highly regarded by his friends. Patrick Malone and Julia Burke, his wife, were natives of Ireland. The father came to America in 1836, landed at Quebec, and then went to New York, from that city reaching Chicago, and finally settling in Racine county, Wisconsin, where he was married. After five years on a farm there, they came to Merton township, Steele county, July 4, 1856. Here they pre-empted 160 acres of land, bringing it to a high degree of improvement. To this farm was afterward added 160 acres, making in all a fine place of 320 acres, on which they followed general farming until 1895. They then sold their farm and came to Owatonna, where the mother died October 20, 1899, and the father in 1904. They were highly respected early pioneers, and their memory will long be honored in this county.

**Dr. George A. Nesse**, a promising young dentist of Owatonna, was born at Mabel, Minn., December 6, 1883, to Theodore and Clara (Larson) Nesse, natives of Illinois. The father when first coming to Minnesota engaged in and conducted a flour mill; later he engaged in the hardware business for several years, when he was burned out, stock and building being completely destroyed. He then engaged in general and diversified farming in Fillmore county, Minnesota, which vocation he has ever since followed. The subject of this sketch received his preliminary education at the district schools of Fillmore county, which was supplemented by one year at the Decorah Normal school at Decorah, Iowa, and two years at the State Normal of Winona. In 1906 he entered the State University of Minnesota, graduating from the dental department in 1909. On July 20, 1909, he came to Owatonna and opened a dental office, where he follows his profession successfully in all its branches. Dr. Nesse is independent in politics and does not affiliate with any party. Besides our subject there are three brothers and one sister in this family, viz.: Charles, James and Arthur, at the State University; Ella, who is a graduate of the university, is now a registered pharmacist at Minneapolis. Dr. Nesse is an enterprising and painstaking young man, and has met with a marked degree of success at Owatonna.

**George Parrott**, of the firm of Parrott & Smith, successful hardware merchants, was born in Schoharie, N. Y., April 11, 1852, son of William and Maria (Beck) Parrott, substantial residents of that state. He received his education in the public schools and then attended the Schoharie Academy, after which he learned the tinner's trade. In 1879 he came to Owatonna,

and followed his trade until 1884, when, with John Smith for a partner, he purchased the hardware business of D. O. Searle, forming the firm of Parrott & Smith. The firm owns its own building and carries a fine modern stock of hardware of all descriptions. In 1906 the store was destroyed by fire, entailing a loss of \$15,000 above the insurance. Undaunted by this disaster, they at once erected a large fireproof brick block, three stories high, on the corner of West Vine and North Cedar streets, where they are now doing business. Mr. Parrott is a Republican in politics, and is now serving his seventh year as president of the school board, which board he has participated in as a member fourteen years. He belongs to the I. O. O. F., the K. of P., and the M. W. A. Mr. Parrott was married November 17, 1882, at Owatonna, to Mary Cole, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Cole. This union has been blessed with two children: Alfred Cole, born December 14, 1883, now clerk for his father, and Roy William, born November 20, 1888, clerk in the National Farmers' Bank. William and Maria (Beck) Parrott, parents of George Parrott, came from England in 1830, and located at Schoharie, N. Y., where the father followed his trade as a baker. Later he established the Parrott House, which he conducted at Schoharie for several years. The hotel still bears the same name. He then engaged in farming the remainder of his life, passing away in 1895. His wife died in 1854.

**Christian Peterson, M. D.,** was born in Denmark, April 5, 1857, son of Cresten and Anna (Vaber) Peterson, natives of Denmark. The father died in Denmark in 1869. The mother immigrated to America in 1875, locating at Cleveland, Ohio. She moved to Minnesota in 1878 and passed away at Owatonna in 1903. The subject of our sketch received his early education in Denmark. He emigrated to America when a youth, coming here May 10, 1872. He first located at Perth Amboy, N. J., where he remained for three years. In 1875 he came to Cleveland, Ohio, and followed the seafaring life on the lakes for a year. He then removed to Clinton, Iowa, where he was occupied as a clerk in a store one year. Leaving this occupation, he went to Ann Arbor, Mich., in 1878, and attended the high school of that place one year. He later attended the medical department of Michigan State University one year, and then went to Detroit, Mich., where he was employed as a pharmacist. In 1880 he removed to Rochester, Minn., where he was employed in a drug store two years. From there he went to Blooming Prairie, Steele county, Minn., and purchased a drug store, conducting same until 1884. At this time he moved his stock of goods to Owatonna and entered into the drug business, which he conducted with success for twelve years. In 1896 he went to Chi-



cago, where he took up the study of medicine at the Illinois University, graduating from that institution the same year. To gain an additional knowledge of the subject, he took a course in the Chicago Physicians' and Surgeons' College, supplemented by a course in the Illinois Medical College at Chicago. He has been in the practice of medicine and surgery at Owatonna since 1896, and has met with a marked degree of success. Dr. Peterson was married December 29, 1883, at Blooming Prairie, to Anna M., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jens Johnson. Their home is blessed with two children, viz.: Alvin C., born November 28, 1884, is now engaged as a telegraph operator and secretary at the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific station at Owatonna; Ella J. is engaged with the Olkon Dry Goods Company. Dr. Peterson is a Democrat in political sentiment; he is a member of the Lutheran Church, also a member of the A. O. U. W., the Danish Brotherhood, the E. F. U., and the M. N. R. He has held a number of local offices, having served as county coroner one term and one term as justice of the peace. He was elected city physician in 1899, which office he held for eight consecutive years. He was again elected in 1908 and 1909, and is still holding that office. The doctor resides in a pleasant residence on Flowervale street and West side. He enjoys a very extensive practice and makes a specialty of the treatment of the eyes.

**Rev. John N. Pivo** was born in Bohemia on May 12, 1865, son of Francis and Theresa (Svoboda) Pivo, natives of Bohemia. They came to America in 1888 and located at Chicago, where they remained for a period of fifteen years, when they removed to Jackson, Minn., where they now reside. Rev. Pivo received his education in the classics at Budweis, Bohemia; he then went to Belgium and took up the study of philosophy in the American Seminary of Louvain; he came to America in 1887 and entered the St. Paul Seminary and graduated from that institution November 15, 1890. He was ordained to the Catholic priesthood at St. Paul by Rt. Rev. McGolric,\* of Duluth, Minn. He first took up his duties at Madison, Minn., but remained there only three months, when, on the death of Father Singer, pastor of the Sacred Heart Church, he received a call to that parish, on June 14, 1891, where he has since remained. He has a congregation of 100 families.

**Joseph W. Rowland**, register of deeds for Steele county, was born in Liverpool, England, March 7, 1864, son of Dr. Henry M. and Ann Jane (Wren) Rowland, natives of England. His father was a physician and practiced his profession in the city of Liverpool until his death, December 23, 1864. His mother is still living. Joseph acquired his early education in the private schools of England, and after leaving school went to work in a cotton



broker's office in his native city, where he remained for six years. In 1884 he came to America and located at Owatonna. He worked at farming for two years and then entered the hardware store of E. Y. Hunnewill, where he remained two years and then accepted a position as bookkeeper at the Owatonna creamery, where he was engaged two years. He then moved to Minneapolis in 1889 and became assistant bookkeeper for the Minnesota Creamery Company. After remaining there for one year he went to Duluth and took charge of the wholesale commission house of the Potter-Lucas Company, where he remained for two years, and then returned to Owatonna and opened a real-estate and insurance office which he conducted until he was elected register of deeds of Steele county in 1904. He was re-elected in 1906 and 1908 and still holds the office. In politics Mr. Rowland is a consistent adherent of the Republican party. Before assuming his present position, he served in various public capacities, including a three years' term as city recorder. Mr. Rowland has achieved his success by fidelity and hard work, and well deserves the honored position he has attained. Amid a life filled with industry he has found time to develop the social side of his nature, and has affiliated with the Masonic order, the Knights of Pythias, the Royal Arcanum and the Modern Woodmen of America. The subject of this sketch was married March 11, 1891, at Owatonna, to Eva M. Doolittle, and this union has been blessed with two children, Frances M. and Josephine W., both living at home. The family residence is at 405 East Vine street, Owatonna.

**Henry R. Sander**, a wide-awake merchant of Owatonna, was born in Columbus, Wis., March 23, 1879, son of Henry and Elizabeth (Reickman) Sander, natives of Germany. The father emigrated from his native land in 1873, locating at Madison, Wis. In 1874 he went to Columbus, Wis., where he engaged in the bakery business until 1879. He was married in 1877, to Miss Elizabeth Reickman. He then came to Owatonna and engaged in the same business, which he continued until 1902, when he sold out to his son, Henry R., and retired from active business. He died April 2, 1907. The mother is still living in Owatonna. The subject of this sketch received his early education in the public schools of Owatonna, which was supplemented with a course at Pillsbury Academy. Leaving school, he entered the employment of his father in the bakery in which capacity he continued until 1902. At this time he formed a co-partnership with Clarence Porter, and they purchased the bakery business from his father. In 1903 Mr. Emil Buboltz purchased Mr. Porter's interest, and they then continued under the name of Sander & Buboltz until January 14, 1908, at which time Mr. Sander bought out Mr. Buboltz.

and has since been the sole owner and proprietor. He conducts an up-to-date bakery and restaurant. He also manufactures ice cream and candy. He sells wholesale and retail and does a flourishing and steadily increasing business. Mr. Sander was married June 28, 1905, at Owatonna, to Mamie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Huber, of Owatonna. Mrs. Sander's mother died November 27, 1896. In religious faith he belongs to the Lutheran Church. Mr. Sander is a good citizen and a deserving young business man. He resides at 117 North Cedar street.

**Dr. Clayton H. Stearns**, one of the leading dentists of Owatonna, is well qualified both by nature and training for the profession that he has adopted. He has a well equipped office, and his skill has attracted patients from even beyond the limits of the county. Dr. Stearns was born in Dodge county, Minnesota, July 2, 1859, son of Truman and Cornelia (Thayer) Stearns. He grew to boyhood on the parental farm, and attended the neighborhood schools, after which he took up the study of dental practice and surgery. After thoroughly mastering his chosen profession, he started practice in Elkader, Clayton county, Iowa, in 1878. In April, 1880, he went to Zumbrota, in Goodhue county, Minn., where he followed his profession until 1897, when he was attracted to Owatonna by the wider opportunities offered. His well equipped office, which he has since maintained, is a model for service and convenience. While in Zumbrota, Dr. Stearns served five years in Company D, Third Regiment, Minnesota National Guard, and a part of that time was on the colonel's staff, with the rank of captain. After coming to Owatonna he was instrumental in organizing a company which was known as Company I of the Fourth Regiment, and was made captain. Later he was promoted to major and one year later to lieutenant colonel, in which capacity he served until the regiment was mustered out. Pillsbury Academy had the advantage of five years of his service, during which time he had charge of the military features of that school as commandant. In the profession of dentistry Dr. Stearns takes high rank. He has devoted much of his time to the advancement of his chosen life work, has submitted several results of his study and research to the state and national societies, and has written articles that have occasioned wide discussion. He is a member of the National and State Dental Associations, and of the Southern Minnesota Dental Association. Of the latter he was one of the organizers and first president, and he has also been president of the state association, serving with credit. Although a staunch Republican in politics, he has not found time to mingle in public life. Dr. Stearns is a Chapter Mason, and belongs also to the Knights of Pythias and the Odd Fellows. Clayton H. Stearns was married May 17,

1886, at Waseca, to Clara Beierwalter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Beierwalter. This union has been blessed with three children: Josephine, Genevieve and Geraldine. The two older children are students at Carleton College, at Northfield, Minn. The family residence is located at 908 South Cedar street. The parents of Dr. Stearns were Truman and Cornelia (Thayer) Stearns, natives of New York state. They came westward to Minnesota in October, 1856, and were consequently early pioneers. They located in Dodge county, took up a claim, and engaged in farming in Ashland township. The mother died August 2, 1890, and the father, after renting his farm, took up his home with his son, and resided with him until his death, April 13, 1907.

**Andrew Stageberg**, secretary of The Kelly Company, Owatonna, was born in Minneola township, Goodhue county, Minn., April 12, 1872, son of N. A. Stageberg, of Goodhue county. Andrew received his early education in the district schools of Minneola township, which was supplemented by two years in the Red Wing Business College. Leaving school, he started life as a clerk in a general store at Roscoe, Minn., which vocation he followed for three years. Having learned the details of the general merchandise business, he accepted a position as manager of a store at Zumbrota, remaining there one year. The following year he engaged in the real-estate and insurance business at Zumbrota. September 28, 1899, he came to Owatonna and engaged as manager of the shoe department for J. H. Robson, in whose employ he remained for four years. At this time Mr. Robson sold to Mr. Kelly, and the establishment was incorporated and is known as The Kelly Company. Mr. Stageberg became a stockholder in the new company, and was elected secretary, which position he still retains. Mr. Stageberg was married June 1, 1903, at Owatonna, to Marie J., daughter of C. Larson, of Lemond township, Steele county. One child was born to this union, viz.: Norman Clifford, born April 7, 1905. Mr. Stageberg affiliates with the Republican party. He is a member of the Lutheran Church, also a member of various fraternal organizations, viz.: M. S., B. A. Y., K. of P. Mr. Stageberg is a very enterprising young business man.

**F. M. Smersh, M. D.**, one of the honored physicians of Steele county, was born in Moravia, Austria, October 4, 1848, son of Thomas and Rosalie (Maca) Smersh. He came to America with his parents and lived in Pittsburg, Pa., and Davenport, Iowa, before coming to Owatonna in 1878. Dr. Smersh obtained his early education by much toil and self-sacrifice, mostly in the night schools of Pittsburg. He took a course in the Owatonna high school, and then attended the Kings Medical College of Des Moines, Iowa, one year, graduating from the Bennet Col-

lege of Eclectic Surgery, March 20, 1888. Subsequently he attended the Homeopathic Hospital College at Cleveland, Ohio. His first practice was at Allegheny City, Pa., but the climate not being suited to his health in that city, he came to Owatonna, where he has since been engaged in the practice of his profession, having also an interest in the Smersh & Kubat Drug Company. Being thoroughly ethical in his practice and profession, Dr. Smersh has allied himself with the national, county and state medical associations, and also belongs to the Minnesota Anti-Tuberculosis Society and the American Public Health Association of the United States, Mexico and Canada. He has been chairman of the board of health of Owatonna since May, 1894, has served as alderman from the Third ward for a total of seven years, and has served on the library board for a number of terms past. The wide scope of his office-holding shows the wide diversity of his interests, and the service he has given shows his ability as a man, a citizen and a physician. Dr. Smersh was married June 20, 1891, to Amelia Slezak, and to this union have been born three children: Jerome, Rosaria and Clement. The family residence is at 216 North Oak street. In addition to the sanitary and medical societies mentioned above, Dr. Smersh is a member of the I. O. O. F., the M. B. A., the F. O. E., the Sons of Herman, the Z. B. G., and the C. S. P. S. His wife is also prominent in fraternal circles. Dr. Smersh is also at the head of the Ancient Order of Aztecs, being the chief officer of its grand lodge. Casper Slezak and Anna, his wife, were natives, respectively of Bohemia and Steele county. The former makes his home with Dr. Smersh, and the latter died July 29, 1898. Thomas Smersh and Rosalia Maca, his wife, parents of Dr. F. M. Smersh, were natives, respectively, of Moravia and Bohemia. In the old country the father was a weaver. They came to America in 1867, and located in Pittsburg, Pa., remaining until 1876, then going to Davenport, Iowa. In 1878 they came to Owatonna, and here the mother died in February, 1888. The father died June 25, 1900.

**Harry W. Stout** was born in Kasson, Minn., October 1, 1881, and received his early education in the neighborhood schools and in the Kasson high school. This he supplemented with a course in the Mankato Commercial College. In 1901 he came to Owatonna, and for two years worked for the Owatonna Hotel Company, winning many friends. In 1903, seeing a good business opening, he purchased the cigar stand and tobacco house of C. W. Zoehrlout. In this business he has since continued, the place having increased rapidly in popularity and volume of trade. Mr. Stout keeps everything found in an up-to-date store of this kind, and caters to the most fastidious tastes. Aside from his







C. J. SERVATIUS

case trade, he does a large wholesale, jobbing and manufacturing business. In the manufacturing line, he makes a specialty of La Pelata, a clear Havana, which has met with much favor from discriminating smokers. The Force, a popular five-cent cigar, has also met with wide sales. The output of the cigar-making department of the establishment is about 300,000 cigars annually. Mr. Stout is a self-made man, and has made all he possesses by his own effort. That he has succeeded in life is testified by his constantly filled tobacco house and his large amount of orders. Although not an active politician, he is a stanch Republican in politics. Being of a fraternal nature, he has affiliated himself with the Knights of Pythias and the Union Commercial Travelers. June 9, 1909, Mr. Stout allied himself with Louise C. Rasskopf, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Rasskopf, of Owatonna. The family residence is at 362 East Main street. John L. and Jennie (Hemingway) Stout, parents of Harry W. Stout, came from Pennsylvania to Wisconsin, and in 1870 located in Dodge county, where the father engaged in the furniture and undertaking business in the village of Kasson. In 1903 they removed to Kentry, Kan. John L. Stout is now practically retired, but still looks after his extensive real-estate interests.

**Charles J. Servatius** was born in Faribault, Rice county, Minn., on Christmas day, 1868, a son of Henry and Margaret (Mayer) Servatius, natives of Austria, who came to America as children, the father locating first in McHenry county, Illinois, engaging in farming. In 1856 they came to Minnesota and a short time after reaching the state settled in Rice county, farming until 1878, when they moved to Owatonna and took up the business of market gardening, which vocation he followed until his death, on April 11, 1885. The mother is still living with her son. Charles received his education at the Sacred Heart Academy of Owatonna. After leaving school, he commenced work for himself and filled various positions of trust until 1904, when he was elected city clerk of Owatonna. He has been elected every year since and still holds the office. His political affiliations are with the Democratic party, and in his religious belief he is a Catholic. He has been secretary of the Commercial Club for the past four years, has been a member of the Owatonna fire department for over nineteen years, and has served as secretary of the department for the past twelve years. He has been connected with the management of the Metropolitan Opera House for the past nine years, is now its active manager and has been for the past four years. Mr. Servatius is one of the enterprising young men of Owatonna, and is interested in all that pertains to the best interests of the city and county. He lives at his pleasant

home on South Oak street, with his aged mother, and enjoys the respect and esteem of all who know him.

**Herman Schmidt**, a prosperous real-estate dealer of Owatonna, was born in Germany, July 27, 1838, son of August and Augusta (Frank) Schmidt, natives of Prussia. The father, who was a school teacher all his life, died September 17, 1862. The mother passed away December 23, 1880. Herman received his early education in the public schools of Prussia. Leaving school, he took up the mercantile business, which he followed until 1859. At this time he entered the military service, in which he remained two years and eleven months. He then clerked in a store for some time, and in 1864, when the war with Denmark broke out, he was again called to serve his country. He was discharged from service with honor the same year. At this time he obtained a pass from his government and emigrated to America, locating in New York City, where he remained for a short period. He entered the service of the United States during the time of the Civil War, being enlisted three years in the Army of the Potomac, Company C, Fourth Regiment New Jersey Volunteer Infantry, of the Sixth Corps. He was discharged with honor July 16, 1865, at Hall's Hill, Va. After being discharged from the army, he went to Columbus, Wis., and engaged in the mercantile business, which he conducted until June, 1866. At this time he went to La Crosse, Wis., thence to St. Paul, thence to St. Cloud, and from there to Faribault. Leaving the latter place, he came to Owatonna, June 5, 1866, and engaged in the saloon and mercantile business, which he continued until 1878. At this time he sold out his mercantile establishment on account of ill health and engaged in conveyance, insurance and real estate, which business he has continued with success ever since. Mr. Schmidt was married September 5, 1872, at Owatonna, to Mrs. Margaret Ganser (nee Bauer). Six children were born to this union, viz.: Mary, wife of C. F. Albertus, cashier of the Security Bank; Carl A., who is engaged in the grocery business at Peever, S. D.; Alfred, a clerk in the Security Bank of Owatonna; Carl A.; Hugo; and Ella, deceased. Mr. Schmidt is an independent voter and a member of the A. O. U. W. He is a man who is held in high esteem, and has served the city and county in a number of local offices, being six years a member of the city council, five years on the school board, twelve years county commissioner, serving eight years out of the twelve as chairman; three years on the library board, serving part of this time as secretary of that board; and thirty years as trustee of Forest Hill Cemetery. In 1895 Mr. Schmidt built a beautiful modern residence at 805 South Cedar street. He also owns a block on North Cedar





J. H. VINER



street, and is the owner of 124 acres of land in Otter Tail county, Minnesota.

**John Smith**, of the firm of Parrott & Smith, hardware merchants, was born at Dittersbach, Austria, April 30, 1860. He was the son of Frank and Mary (Marek) Smith, natives of Austria, where they were engaged in farming. The father died in 1885 and the mother in 1888. John was educated in the public schools of Austria, and emigrating to America in 1875, located in Owatonna township, where he went to work on a farm. He attended school in this country two winters and by persevering effort acquired a good knowledge of the English language. He followed farming until 1881, then came to Owatonna, where he clerked in the hardware store of D. O. Searle. He remained in the employ of Mr. Searle for three years, during the last part of which period he acted as manager. In 1885 he formed a co-partnership with Mr. George Parrott. This partnership purchased the store from the D. O. Searle estate, and they have since continued to do a flourishing business, enjoying a wide patronage and universal confidence. Mr. Smith was married January 1, 1883, at Owatonna, to Eva Morrison, daughter of Isaac N. and Mrs. Morrison, of Clinton Falls township. The father died March 20, 1906. The mother is still living at Clinton Falls. In politics Mr. Smith is affiliated with the Republican party. In religious faith he, with his family, belongs to the Congregational Church. Mr. Smith is also prominent in fraternal circles, belonging to the Modern Woodmen of America, the Knights of Pythias, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the A. O. A. Mr. Smith is a good citizen, and takes an active interest in the public affairs of his community. He served as alderman of the First ward two years—1900-1901. He was elected county commissioner and served four years—1903-1907. The family is domiciled in a beautiful residence at 222 South Grove street. November 19, 1906, the store of Parrott & Smith was completely destroyed by fire, entailing a loss of \$15,000 above insurance. Not daunted by this loss, they immediately commenced to rebuild, erecting a beautiful three-story fireproof brick block, where they are now located.

**John H. Viner**, the well-known proprietor of the Ideal Cement Tile Company, at Owatonna, is a native of Skåne, Sweden, and was born May 25, 1868, a son of Hans and Annie (Person) Viner, both natives of that country. The father, a farmer by occupation, was active in political affairs, and represented his district in the Riksdagsman, or Swedish Congress, eleven years. He died March 28, 1883. The mother passed away in November, 1898. John H. spent his boyhood on his father's farm, attended the public schools, and after leaving school worked as a farmer

in Sweden till he was thirty-one years old. In 1899 he came to this country, landed at New York, November 11, and went thence to Chicago, where he was variously employed till the spring of 1900, when he came to Minnesota and for two years was employed at cement work. Settling at Owatonna, May 28, 1902, he there followed the same occupation one year, and in February, 1903, purchased the business owned by Mr. Nels Nelson, taking contracts for building sidewalks. He continued that line of work alone some six years. In the spring of 1909 Mr. E. L. Haines came into the business, and the present company was formed and the scope of the work enlarged to include all kinds of cement tile blocks, building material and every description of cement work. Mr. Viner has made a careful study of his line of work and is known as a thoroughly informed expert in everything pertaining to it. He has devoted himself closely to his business and has had little time for outside affairs. He is a Democrat in his political principles, but has never sought or held any office. He is interested in fraternal fellowship, being identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Royal Arcanum, and in his religious faith holds to the tenets of the Presbyterian Church. On October 5, 1900, Mr. Viner married Annie Nelson, who came from Sweden, where her father now lives, and where her mother died in 1908. Mr. and Mrs. Viner have one child, Aneta Viola by name.

**O. E. Williamson**, alderman of the Second ward in the city of Owatonna, and a prosperous business man, was born in Norway, February 20, 1875, son of Erick and Martha (Ristie) Williamson, who in 1879 came to America and engaged in farming in Kenyon, Goodhue county, Minn., where they still remain, being honored and esteemed citizens, now living retired from active work in Kenyon.

Our subject came to America with his parents when but four years of age. He received his early education in the country schools. He then engaged in the meat cutting trade with D. Gochnauer & Son, of Kenyon, in whose employ he remained for nine years and three months, learning the trade from A to Z, from the slaughter-house to the block. In 1902 he came to the city of Owatonna and entered the employ of J. M. Schaffer, where he remained for two years. Then he entered the copartnership with P. J. Rockwood, conducting a market until 1909, at which time he sold his interest to Mr. Rockwood and purchased the meat business of D. H. Denison, which is the old Schaffer place, where he first started in Owatonna. Mr. Williamson is now the sole owner and proprietor, and carries on a very successful business. He buys and slaughters all his beef and manufactures all his lard, sausages, ham and bacon, etc. He



O. E. WILLIAMSON









R. T. WOODARD

keeps an up-to-date market, sanitary in every respect. His honest dealings and integrity answer for his large and flourishing trade. Mr. Williamson was married February 4, 1903, at Austin, Minn., to Miss Charlotte E. Furtney, a faithful, loving and devoted wife. Mr. Williamson is a Republican in political sentiment. He is prominent in fraternal circles, belonging to the A. O. U. W., I. O. O. F., F. O. E., K. O. P., and the Owatonna Commercial Club, which he aided in organizing. In January, 1910, he was elected chancellor commander of the Knights of Pythias. In 1906 he was elected alderman of the Second ward and re-elected in 1908 and 1910 without opposition. His home is beautifully located at 222 East Main street.

**William Wavrin**, proprietor of the Owatonna Dye Works, was born in Steele county, December 4, 1879, son of Joseph and Paulina (Belina) Wavrin, natives of Bohemia. The parents emigrated from their native land in the fifties, locating in Steele county, where the father engaged in farming. William received his early education in the district schools of Merton township, which was supplemented with a high-school education. He later took a business course at Canfield Business College of Owatonna. Leaving the latter institution, he started life on his father's farm, where he remained until 1903. At this time he went to Owatonna and bought the dye works from his brothers, who had previously conducted that business. Mr. Wavrin is doing a flourishing business, his ability and business integrity being recognized by the public. Besides our subject there are four brothers and one sister in this family, viz.: John, Frank and Joe, who are all farmers in Steele county; A. M. works with William in the dye business; Anna, later Mrs. Jos. Martinek, died in the year 1904.

Mr. Wavrin is a Democrat in political faith. He is prominent in fraternal circles, being a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, the C. S. P. S., the A. O. A., and the Z. C. B. J. and C. A. O. S.

**Rufus T. Woodard**, who has the distinction of having been one of the famous Roosevelt Rough Riders, has seen life in various parts of the globe, and has had a wider experience than usually falls to the lot of a native-born Minnesotan. He first saw the light of day in Berlin township, Steele county, August 12, 1872, a son of R. L. and Julia (Barrett) Woodard, natives of Pennsylvania. He received his education in the schools of Fairbault, and from several correspondence schools, and first started out for himself as an acrobat, traveling with a circus for two and one-half years, and visiting every state in the Union. He then traveled all over Europe with Colonel Cody's Wild West Show. He was there for a year and one-half, and visited every

country in Europe. After his return to America he located in Chicago, Ill., and worked at the trade of bricklayer, going from there to Kansas City, Mo., and thence to Galveston, Texas, where he worked at the concrete business for a while, and then moved to St. Paul, where he learned the sculptor and carver's trade. In the spring of 1898 he went to San Antonio, Texas, and at the outbreak of the Spanish-American War he enlisted in Troop H of the United States Volunteer Cavalry, "Roosevelt's Rough Riders." They were first ordered to Tampa, Fla., and thence to Cuba. He participated in all the battles of his regiment, and was mustered out September 4, 1898, at Montauk Point, Long Island. He then returned to San Antonio, where he put together a moving picture and vaudeville show, which was known as "Woodard's Congress of Rough Riders," and which he conducted for six months. In the spring of 1899 he went to St. Paul and engaged in the concrete business until August, when he returned to his old home in Faribault. During the year 1901 he went to California and worked in all the principal cities to better acquaint himself with his line of business. In 1902 he returned to Faribault and in the spring of 1903 came to Owatonna and formed a copartnership with Mr. C. K. Anderson by purchasing the Hammel interests in the contracting, concrete and cement company of Hammel Brothers & Anderson, the business now being carried on under the name of "Guarantee Concrete and Construction Company." Mr. Woodard was married September 9, 1892, at St. Paul, Minn., to Marie Dahl, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Dahl, of Walcott township. Three daughters have blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Woodard: Alivetta LaFlossetta, Virginia Lorina and Bluedella Corine. Mr. Woodard's political affiliations are with the Republican party, and in his religious belief he is a Congregationalist. He is a member of the U. C. T. and the F. O. E. and of the Owatonna Gun Club. He is also a member of the Armory Athletic Association, of which he has served as instructor for several years. He is a member of Company I, Second Regiment of the Minnesota National Guard, and also belongs to the North Star Poultry Association. Mr. Woodard is a self-made man, and lives at his pleasant home, No. 416 Glendale avenue. He is interested in all that pertains to the best interests of his adopted city and enjoys the respect and esteem of all who know him. R. L. Woodard and Julia Barrett, his wife, were natives of Pennsylvania. They came to Steele county at an early day and located in Berlin township, engaging in farming until 1880, when they removed to Faribault, where R. L. is still living, his wife having died March 25, 1909.

**Hans Peter Anderson** was born in Denmark, April 3, 1859, son of Andrew and Stina Jacobson. The father was a carpenter and builder in Denmark, and lived there until his death in 1878. The mother died in 1860. Hans Peter received his education in Denmark; coming to America in 1882, he attended the American schools for one year, and then located in Steele county and engaged in farming. In 1890 he purchased a farm of seventy-five acres in section 20, Blooming Prairie township, and here he has followed general farming ever since, dairying being his chief industry. Hans Anderson was married March 9, 1883, to Stina Jensen, of Denmark, and three daughters have blessed their union: Mary, born November 22, 1884, now Mrs. Amond Anderson of Blooming Prairie township; Emma, born March 2, 1886; and Agnes, born July 3, 1890. In politics Mr. Anderson is a Republican, and a member of the Free Christian Church. He has twice served his township as supervisor, the first time for a period of three years, and was again elected in 1909, and still holds the office. He has served as a member of the school board of district No. 84, and is also the manager of the Union Creamery Association of Blooming Prairie township. He has a fine farm which is well improved. He is a self-made man and is highly respected by all who know him.

**John Antel**, a well-known farmer of Havana township, Steele county, Minn., was born in Bohemia, June 27, 1850, where he passed his boyhood and received his education. He left the Fatherland in 1876, locating in Steele county, engaging in farming. Ten years after his arrival in this country he purchased a quarter section of land, where he continued general diversified farming for some time. Later he sold eighty acres of this tract and, in 1899, bought what was known as the Hewett farm, consisting of 120 acres of good land, located in section 5, Havana township, Steele county. This, with his other eighty, now constitute his farm, on which he is still actively engaged in its cultivation and improvement, having built up one of the most up-to-date and well cared for farms in the county. Mr. Antel has always given much of his time to dairying and is one of the stockholders in the Havana Creamery. In politics he is independent, believing in the best man for the office, regardless of his party affiliations. Community affairs have always claimed much of his attention, however, and he is at present serving his school district as a member of the school board. As to religious belief, he is a follower of the tenets of the Presbyterian Church. He is also identified with the Modern Woodmen of America and the C. S. P. S. June, 1887, he married Anna Belina, by whom he has four children, who, named respectively in the order of their ages, are: Wencl, Fredrick, Venc and Anna.

**L. J. Brynstad**, a native of Norway, was born September 17, 1862. He passed his boyhood in his native country and there received his education, coming to this land of opportunity at the age of twenty years, and locating in Steele county, Minnesota, where he was engaged in carpentering for five years. He then purchased ninety acres of land in section 14, the cultivation of this taking his time and attention for the next five years, after which he bought 160 acres in section 26. Numerous buildings were erected by him and other improvements added from time to time, in keeping with progressive agriculture, thus making his farm one of the most modern and up-to-date in the county. Mr. Brynstad is a follower of the principles of the Republican party, and is always interested in enterprises for the upbuilding of the county. He is at present serving his school district as clerk, this being his fifth year of office. He has invested his savings in bank, creamery and elevator stock. The Lutheran Church claims him as a member. January 23, 1886, he was married to Elsie Quitber, only child of Mr. and Mrs. Axel Quitber. Seven children have blessed this marriage: Clara, who is a student at the State Normal School at Winona; Jennie, a teacher, and Alma, Robert, Laurence, Alice and Lydia, who live at home with their parents. Jens and Engel (Joakim) Brynstad, parents of L. J., were natives of Norway, residing in the fatherland all their lives. The father was a sergeant in the Norwegian army. His decease occurred in 1908, the mother having died eighteen years earlier.

Mrs. L. J. Brynstad's father, Axel Quitber, was a native of Sweden, born January 31, 1827, in St. Olaf, in Skone. At the age of sixteen he learned the carpenter's trade and worked at this until thirty years of age, at which time he emigrated to America and located in Louisiana and Florida, where he kept up the same trade for three or four years. He came to the state in Minnesota in 1861 and located in Geneva. At that time the country was wild and part of it was surrounded with water so that people could paddle a canoe from Geneva to Owatonna. The same year he purchased 160 acres in section 26, which was covered with timber and shrubs. He was prominent in all doings which belonged to a newly settled life. He was among the first ones that organized a congregation here. This congregation belonged to the Lutheran Church. It was called the Beaver Lake Congregation. He improved his farm from time to time until his death, which occurred October 23, 1889, when he left his property to his wife and daughter. Mrs. Carrie Quitber, mother of Mrs. L. J. Brynstad, was born in Aurland Sogn in Norway, where she spent her childhood, until the age of thirty years, when she emigrated to this state. She died in 1898 and is now resting by her husband's side in the Geneva cemetery.



**George S. Brainerd**, a prominent business man of Blooming Prairie, Minn., is a native of that town, being born August 7, 1871. He received his education in the public schools, afterwards going into the lumber business with J. C. Brainerd and Company, his father being the principal stockholder. The company had a very extensive patronage, having yards located in Blooming Prairie, Bixby, Watham, Elkton and Albert Lea, all of Minnesota, George S. being the manager of the Blooming Prairie branch and a stockholder. In 1904, they reorganized, incorporating as the Northwest Lumber Company, Mr. Brainerd, becoming a director and retaining the management of the Blooming Prairie yards until 1905, when he disposed of his lumber interests to Laird Norton and Company. The clothing business engaged his attention for the following three years, after which he purchased the stock of the Veblin Mercantile Company, which he incorporated as the Blooming Prairie Mercantile Company. He is still proprietor of this establishment and has met with marked success. Mr. Brainerd is a staunch adherent of the Republican party and has served in numerous offices, being a member of the State Board of Equalization in 1904, a delegate to the National Farm Land Congress at Chicago, in 1909, and was a delegate to the celebrated Conservation Congress. He was also town treasurer for two terms. He is affiliated with numerous benevolent and patriotic organizations, being a Mason, a member of the Blue Lodge, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Modern Woodmen of America and the Order of Hoo Hoo and is also a leading spirit in the local Commercial club. The Universalist church claims his attention in religious matters. August 9, 1893, he united in marriage with Mary A. Toher, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Toher, of Owatonna. They have six children, Marie, born August 21, 1894; John C., born April, 1896; Richard K., David L., Thomas E., and William G. The family residence is on Second street. Mr. Brainerd is the son of John C. and Melissa (Burnham) Brainerd, whose sketch appears elsewhere.

**Andrew A. Berg** was born in Norway, January 10, 1860, son of Abraham and Necolaia (Löceth) Berg, natives of Norway who came to America in 1864 and located in Wisconsin, where they engaged in farming until 1871, when they came to Minnesota and located in Freeborn county, where the father followed his occupation of a farmer until his death October 1877, the mother died in 1901. Andrew received his education at the district schools of Wisconsin and Minnesota. In 1880 he purchased eighty acres of land in Section 27, and since that time has added to it until he now has a farm of 280 acres all in Berlin township, on which he has built his home and buildings and carried on

general diversified farming. He owns in addition 240 acres of land in Grand Forks county, North Dakota. Andrew was married December 9, 1880, to Miss Isabelle Lageson, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. (Elling) Lageson and twelve children have blessed their home: Edwin, with the Ellendale Mercantile Company; Nels, who conducts a saw mill and threshing machine; Albert at home, farming part of home farm; Henry, an engineer working for his brother, Nels; Louisa, student at Pillsbury academy; Ida, housekeeper for Albert; Arnold, Louis, Enoch, Mabel, Lillian and Bennett all living at home. In politics Mr. Berg is an independent Republican, and he attends the Norwegian Lutheran Church. He has served as a director of the school board for a good many years. He is a co-partner in the Ellendale Mercantile Company, vice-president of the Farmers Telephone Company, of Ellendale, is a stockholder of the Farmers Elevator Company, and also of the Ellendale Creamery association. He has won his success by his own efforts, and has the respect and confidence of all who know him.

**W. A. Bailey**, the genial postmaster of Medford village, is a native of Minnesota, and was born May 28, 1860, in Waseca county, St. Mary's village. He is a son of John and Elizabeth (Erwin) Bailey, the former a native of New Hampshire and the latter of New York State. The father came West in 1855 and located in Waseca county, Minnesota, where he was married. He went into the general merchandise business at Waseca village. From there he went to Faribault remaining for some two years and then removed to Prairieville, Rice county, where he conducted a general merchandise establishment until 1865, and then came to Medford, Steele county, establishing a similar business which he continued up to the time of his decease, December 7, 1898. The mother still lives in Medford, and will attain the venerable age of eighty-three years next August, 1910. Besides our subject there is a twin brother in this family, who lives in Chicago. The subject of this sketch acquired his education in the public schools of Medford. Leaving school he was employed in his father's store, which occupation he followed until 1880 at which time he and his brother, Arthur S., bought an interest in their father's store. Arthur S. Bailey died in 1891. He bought his father's interest about one week before the latter's death. Mr. Bailey continued this business until 1901. He then sold his stock and merchandise to John Brown of Lamoni, Iowa, being the first carload of goods shipped over the Rock Island road from this point. Mr. Bailey, as well as his father, has held positions of trust in their community for a long time. His father served as postmaster for many years, and W. A. still continues to fill that position up to the present time. He is also dealer in coal.

Mr. Bailey was married in 1882 to Ella M., daughter of James and D. V. ( ) McNitt, who were natives of New York and Michigan respectively. The family is blessed with two children, viz: Nellie V., now Mrs. C. E. Sanders, of St. Paul, and Leona E., who lives with her parents. A daughter was born to C. E. Sanders and wife June 11, 1910, named Elizabeth Jane Sanders.

In political faith Mr. Bailey is affiliated with the Republican party. His family belong to the Congregation Church. He is also a member of the Knights of Pythias and Yeoman; was a member of the Modern Woodmen. He is secretary of the Strait River Telephone Company.

Mr. Bailey is distinguished as having had the longest continued residence in the village of Medford.

**Ezra C. Bryant**, was born in New York State, March 20, 1852, son of John A. and Clysta A. (Sage) Bryant, natives of New York State. They emigrated west in 1854, locating in Oshkosh, Wis., where the father engaged in farming remaining there until the spring of 1868, when he came to Meriden township, Steele county, and engaged in agricultural pursuits on 195 acres of land, which he had acquired. He followed farming all his life and passed away June, 1880, the mother is still living in Minneapolis. Ezra C. received his early education in Wisconsin, and came to Steele county with his parents in 1868. He bought 126 acres of land in Meriden township. This he later sold and removed to Lemond township, where he purchased 126 acres of land on which he carried on general and diversified farming until 1895. At this time, he moved to Owatonna, where he engaged in rug work for three years, then in 1903, he organized the Owatonna Rug Company, manufacturing all kinds of rugs, carpets and curtains. Mr. Bryant was married April 3, 1877, to Mary E. Davis. She died February 7, 1903. Eight children were born to this union, Earl C., of Esterville, Iowa; James died May 19, 1908; Bessie G., now Mrs. Walter Kitzman, lives in Esterville, Iowa; John A., lives in Minneapolis; Hattie lives at Faribault; Mary E. also lives at Faribault; William C. lives at Esterville, Iowa, and Angie died August —, 1898. Mr. Bryant does not affiliate with any political party but votes for the man, who according to his opinion is the best qualified to fill the office.

**Anton M. Belina** was born in Owatonna township, Steele county, January 22, 1876, son of Anton and Frances (Pavack) Belina, natives of Bohemia. They emigrated to the United States in 1855 locating on a farm in Owatonna township, where they engaged in general and diversified farming, the father following this occupation up to the time of his decease, February 25, 1887. The mother survives him and still resides on the old homestead.

The subject of this sketch received his early education in the district schools of Owatonna township, which was followed by a course in the public schools of Owatonna. While attending the public schools in Owatonna, he also learned the tinner's trade. In 1895, he entered Carlton college and took a general course after which he became salesman for the Black Manufacturing Company of Erie, Pa. This he followed for two years. He then entered into the sporting goods business at Owatonna, where he is now located. He keeps a full line of everything carried in an up-to-date store of this kind, and in connection with this business, he also conducts the leading automobile garage of the city.

Mr. Belina was married June 11, 1901, at Owatonna, to Mary S., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Erdmann (deceased). A daughter and son have blessed their union, viz, Geraldine Evelyn born January 23, 1904, and Kenneth A. born September 25, 1905. Geraldine Evelyn died June 23, 1904, when six months of age. Mr. Belina is a self-made man. He has gained his position by hard work and determined effort. He is a good citizen and generous neighbor. In political sentiment, he is a Democrat. The family adhere to the Lutheran Church. He is also prominent in fraternal circles, belonging to the K. of P., the E. F. U., and the A. O. A. Mr. and Mrs. Belina live in a pleasant residence on Franklin avenue.

**Charley F. Brown**, a native of Minnesota was born in Aurora township, Steele county, on October 6, 1874, son of F. C. and Mary (Clark) Brown. Charley received his education in district No. 27, of Aurora township, and after leaving school he engaged for six years in buying and selling horses, and in 1903 commenced farming on his father's farm of 180 acres, located in Aurora township, in Sections 26 and 27. He has followed general farming in all its branches, but dairying has been his chief pursuit, and he is also engaged in breeding short horn cattle, and Norman and Clyde horses. He was married February 27, 1898, to Bertha Mallman and they have one child: Edna E. born August 4, 1909. In his political views he is a Democrat, and he is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and of the Modern Woodmen of America. He has served his town as constable for one year, and is now serving his fourth year as road overseer, and he is also a Justice of the Peace. Mr. Brown also breeds a large quantity of poultry each year, Rhode Island Reds and Barred Rocks being his favorite varieties. He is a stockholder in the Oak Glen Creamery, and is an enterprising and successful farmer respected by all who know him.

**Thomas M. Bruzek**, cigar manufacturer of Blooming Prairie, was born in New Prague, Scott county, Minnesota, December



4, 1880. He is a son of Frank and Anna (Jelenek) Bruzek, natives of Austria-Hungary, and of Cech parentage. The parents located in Scott county, Minnesota, where the father engaged in farming. He died October 10, 1881, the mother is still living in New Prague, Scott county. Thomas received his early education in the public schools. Leaving school, he took up and learned the cigar makers trade in Waseca, Minn. In 1902, he engaged in the manufacture of cigars at New Prague, which he continued until 1904. From there he went to Spokane, Wash., where he engaged in the same line of business. In 1907, he came to Blooming Prairie village and established a cigar factory, where he is doing a strictly wholesale business. His leading brands are the Lord Digby, ten cents, and the Club, five cents. He has a large and steadily increasing trade having established a reputation on the goods that he manufactures. He has met with a marked degree of success and is highly respected and very popular with the business men of the village. In political sentiment, Mr. Bruzek is a Republican. He is a member of the Catholic Church, also a member of the I. O. O. F.

**Henry J. Brown**, known as an expert horse shoer and skillful workman in his line, was born in Washington county, Wisconsin, June 6, 1876. He is a son of Peter and Margaret (Donsback) Brown, who came hither from Germany in 1846 and settled on a tract of land in Washington county, Wisconsin, where they made a home and lived until 1907. The father was a prosperous and thrifty farmer and after some sixty years of general farming, retired from active work and moved to Fond du Lac county. The mother died October 21, 1903. Henry J. grew up on his father's farm and attended the district schools and had all the ordinary experiences of the Western farmer boy. Of a mechanical turn of mind he worked as a carpenter in early life and in 1898 learned the blacksmith's trade making a specialty of horse shoeing. After moving to Owatonna he joined his brother L. C. Brown, and together, under the name of Brown Brothers, they built up an extensive trade in their special line, and were known near and far as expert, reliable and skillful mechanics. Mr. Brown has devoted himself to his business and has never held or sought any office. He is a Democrat in his political principles, and in religious belief holds to the Catholic faith. He is identified with several fraternal societies, being a member of Knights of Columbus, the Yeomen, Aztecs and Eagles. On October 4, 1904, Mr. Brown married Annette, daughter of D. J. and Minnie (Inuker) Trisko, who came from Germany, their native land, to Wisconsin and thence moved to Owatonna where they now reside and where the father has followed his trade for thirty-three years. Mr. and Mrs. Brown have one child, Raymond H., by



name. In March, 1910, Mr. Brown severed his connection with the firm of Brown Brothers and moved to Denhoff, N. D., where he engaged in the same business.

**Claude C. Campbell**, editor and owner of the "Ellendale Eagle" of Ellendale, Minn., was born in Garrettsville, Ohio, January 19, 1875. At the age of eleven he came with his parents to South Dakota, living successively at Sioux Falls, Holabird and Brookings. At the latter place he completed his education in the public schools and in the State Agricultural College, also of Brookings. He then entered the employ of the "Brookings Register," being connected with that paper at intervals till 1902. During this time, together with Richard Phenix, he established the "Converse County Press" of Douglass, Wyo., and was also associated with S. A. Cochrane in the publication of "The Individual" at Brookings. In 1902, he removed to Ellendale, Minn., and purchased the "Ellendale Eagle," a weekly newspaper, of which he has been sole proprietor and manager ever since. The paper's circulation has been tripled since he took charge. It is known as one of the newsiest and most fearless sheets in the county, and wields a wide influence throughout this section of the state. Mr. Campbell also has a large and increasing business in job and commercial printing, and is a co-partner with W. E. Galloway in the Ellendale Realty Company, one of the live institutions of the village. He has served as postmaster since August 8, 1909, which, together with his other affairs makes him a very busy man.

The Ellendale Telephone Company numbers him among its stockholders. In politics, he is an active supporter of the Republican party and is keenly interested in all that pertains to the welfare of his community. He has served one year as a recorder and two years as president of the village council. The Modern Woodmen of America and the Masonic Order, count him a loyal member of their respective organizations. He was also identified with Company G, of the First Regiment of the South Dakota National Guard, while in South Dakota. March 20, 1898, he was united in marriage with Lillian L. Lewis, at Brookings, S. D. They have two children: Cecil R., born January 1, 1899, and Richard V., who was born February 13, 1903. Daniel R. and Araminta (Sapp) Campbell, parents of Claude C., were born in Ohio, being of Scotch-Irish-Dutch descent. The father was a marble and granite importer, designer of monuments, vaults, etc., for many years, afterwards becoming engaged in the manufacture of pottery at Wellsville, Ohio, where he remained till 1883. He then went to Sioux Falls, S. D., residing there three years, when he joined the tide of landseekers drifting westward and located at Holabird in the same state. The country

not developing as rapidly as anticipated, he took a position as general agent for the Masonic Aid Life Insurance, of Yankton, S. D., and established his headquarters at Winnipeg, Manitoba. The family was removed to Brookings because of the educational advantages offered there, with the intention of taking up their residence in Winnipeg later. These plans were upset by the death of Mr. Campbell which occurred at Winnipeg, September, 15, 1888. The mother is still living with her son Claude, who is her only child, a daughter, Bertha, having died at Brookings in 1892, at the age of twenty-three years.

**Robert Campbell** was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, on July 22, 1850, son of Robert and Jane Campbell, natives of Scotland, where the father died. The mother came to America in 1857, and died in Webster township, Rice county. Robert attended the public schools of Scotland until he was seven years of age, and then came to America with his mother. They located for one year in Wisconsin, then moved to Minnesota and took up their home in Webster township, and there followed general farming until 1900 when he sold the old home and came to Steele county and purchased a 200 acre farm in Blooming Prairie township, Sections 26 and 27, where he has since followed general farming. He was married October 1, 1887, at Northfield, Minn., to Grace Campbell, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Campbell, of Dodge county. Her mother died in 1896 and her father is now living at Blooming Prairie village. Seven children have blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Campbell: Jennie, born December 6, 1888; William, born March 26, 1890; James born September 13, 1891; John, born April 7, 1893; Robert born April 20, 1896; Margaret, born August 15, 1898, and Grace born March 17, 1901. Mr. Campbell's political affiliations are with the Republican party and he is a member of the Presbyterian Church. He is now treasurer of school district No. 45 of his township, and is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company, of Northfield. He is a self made man, and a good citizen, respected by all.

**Jay J. Cotter**, a well-known farmer of Steele county, was born in Owatonna, October 8, 1876. His education was received in the public schools and completed with a course in Pillsbury academy. He then came to Havana township and located on his father's farm where he has been engaged in general agriculture ever since. Mr. Cotter also owns forty acres in Section seventeen and eighty more in Section sixteen, all of which is largely under cultivation. The Farmer's Elevator Company, of Owatonna and the Havana Creamery count him among their stockholders and patrons. As to political faith, he is a believer in the tenets of the Democratic party, but has never sought public office, his large farming interests taking all his attention. He was married,

June 10, 1903, to Fannie E. Holmes, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Byron Holmes, of Owatonna. The father is deceased. James A. and Miranda (Jones) Cotter, parents of Jay J., were natives of Pennsylvania. The father emigrated to Minnesota as a boy in the early pioneer days, locating in Owatonna, then but a rough frontier outpost, where he received his education. After his school days, he worked in a grocery store for several years, later being elected clerk of the county court and holding this office for many years. He then purchased a hundred and sixty acres in Havana township, soon afterwards selling eighty of them, and followed general farming for a time. His election as deputy auditor put an end to his farming operations, and while holding this office, he died from the effects of a stroke of apoplexy in May, 1909. His wife is now living at Owatonna.

**M. J. Dunigan** was born in Sauk county, Wisconsin, October 24, 1858, son of Patrick and Margaret (Murphy) Dunigan, natives of Ireland who came to America in 1848 and located first in Washington, D. C., where they remained only a short time and then moved to Indiana, going from there in 1855 to Wisconsin where the father engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1862. This year they moved to Goodhue county, Minnesota, where they remained for one year and then went to Freeborn County, Minnesota, remaining there until 1873 when they moved to Steele county locating in Berlin township on 240 acres of land in Section 34, which he had bought in 1871. Mr. Dunigan broke, cleared and subdued this land with the help of his son, brought to a high state of cultivation, and here he followed general diversified farming until his death which occurred April 28, 1878. His faithful wife followed in October, 1892. M. J. Dunigan received his education in the district schools of Freeborn county, coming to Steele county in 1873 he engaged in farming with his father until his father's death, when he together with his brother, Thomas, conducted the home farm until 1892, when he started out for himself on a 160 acre farm in Section 33 and 34 which was left him through the death of his father. In the Spring of 1893 he traded this farm for another 160 acres in Section 33 of Berlin township, where he is now engaged in farming. He was married November 14, 1892 to Anna Wright, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Wright, who were early settlers of Steele county coming here in 1856. Both are now deceased. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Dunigan: Mildred, born November 17, 1894; Luella, born February 10, 1900, and Gerald, born July 15, 1905, and two died in infancy. In politics Mr. Dunigan is a Democrat, and in his religious belief he is a Catholic. He is a member of C. O. F. and the B. A. F. He served the town as supervisor

for two years, and was chairman of the town board for fourteen years. He has served as director on the school board both in district No. 96 and in district No. 33. He is a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator Co., and has been president of the Farmers' Rural Telephone Co. since its organization. He is one of Steele county's prosperous and successful farmers.

**Thomas E. Dunigan** is a native of Minnesota, having been born in Freeborn county, August 7, 1873. He is a son of Patrick Dunigan. Thomas received his education at the district schools after which he took up farming on the home farm with his brother, M. J. Dunigan, until, by the death of his mother in 1893, he inherited 160 acres of the home farm in Section 34, Berlin township, on which, in 1905, he begun farming for himself. He has greatly improved the land and the buildings. In 1908 he erected a two story house, thoroughly modern and up-to-date. He is also a breeder of short horn cattle, and has met with great success in this line of work greatly improving his herd from year to year. In his religious belief he is a Catholic, and his political affiliations are with the Democratic party. He is a stockholder in the Farmer's Elevator Company, and in the Ellendale Creamery. He has never aspired to public office, although always interested in whatever is for the best interests of his town and county. He is a single man with his sister Hannah as housekeeper, he is happily and comfortably situated in his beautiful farm residence where he enjoys the respect and confidence of all who know him.

**Louis C. Ditlevson** was born in Denmark, September 4, 1850, son of Chris. and Carrie (Jenson) Ditlevson, natives of Denmark. The father was a weaver by trade, and died in his native land in 1888, the mother died in 1858. Louis received his education in Denmark, and then learned the weaver's trade which he followed until he came to America in 1873. He first located in Geneva in Freeborn county, Minnesota, he engaged in farming and remained there for two years. In 1875 he came to Steele county and followed farm work for two years, and in 1877 purchased eighty acres in Section 17, of Blooming Prairie township. He has added to this at different times 140 acres and now has a farm of 220 acres all in Section 17. At the time of purchase it was nearly all wild land, but he has it now all under a fine state of cultivation, and within the last eight years he has erected a new home and all new out-buildings. He follows a general diversified farming. Mr. Ditlevson was married February 9, 1875, to Mary Paulson, who was born in Denmark, November 6, 1857, and came to America in 1874. Sixteen children have blessed their union: Chris, born January 7, 1876, of Blooming Prairie township; Mary, born May 13, 1877, died



February 22, 1880; Hannah, born March 10, 1879, now Mrs. N. C. Nelson, of Blooming Prairie township; Fred, born October 17, 1880, now living in Wisconsin; Andrew, born July 16, 1882, now of Blooming Prairie township; Henry, born May 6, 1884, now of Owatonna; May, born March 21, 1886, at home; Caroline, born January 13, 1888, also at home; William, born April 7, 1890, now at Appleton, Minn., keeping books; Eddie, born January 3, 1892; Arthur, born February 22, 1893; Maggie, born March 11, 1894; Emanuel, born April 16, 1895; Myrtle, born April 9, 1897; Lawrence and Ella, twins, born December 6, 1899, the eight youngest children are living at home with their parents. In his political affiliations Mr. Ditlevson is a Republican, and he is a member of the Baptist Church. He has been a member of the school board of district No. 85 for seven years and he is now treasurer of the district. he is a member of the Union Creamery Association, and is a stockholder in the Farmer's Elevator of Blooming Prairie. His is a good citizen and highly respected by all who know him.

**Edward Q. Ertel**, a well known and popular physician of Ellendale, Minn., was born in Brookville, Ind., February 13, 1881. He received his early education in the district schools, and later attended the High school of Madison, S. D., after his graduation completing a course in the scientific department of the Valpariso University, of Valpariso, Ind. Leaving here, he entered the Chicago Medical college in which he remained two years, and then entered the medical department of the Cincinnati university, receiving his degree, in 1907. After a year of service in the Good Samaritan hospital of Cincinnati as interne, he removed to Ellendale, Minn., opened offices, and launched into the practice of his profession, having achieved an unusual degree of success and won the confidence of the community. He enjoys a large village and country practice, and is an active member of the county, state and American medical associations. In politics, he casts his ballot as the best interests of the community dictates, and takes an active part in public affairs, now serving as Chairman of the local board of health and as a member of the Village Council. The Modern Woodmen of America count him a loyal member of their organization. December 9, 1908, he was married to Martha Spiegel, at Kewanee, Ill. George and Caroline (Knecht) Ertel, parents of our subject, were natives of Indiana, where the father followed general farming up to the time of his decease in December, 1891. His wife passed away the same month and year.

**Theodore P. Fagre**, of Blooming Prairie village, postmaster and editor, was born in Mitchell county, Iowa, December 30, 1869, he is a son of Nels and Ingeborg (Swenson) Fagre, both



natives of Norway who came to America at an early day and located in Mitchell county, Iowa, where the father was engaged in farming all his life. He died in 1873 and the mother now resides with her children. Theodore received his education at the district schools of Iowa, and also attended the Cedar valley seminary, at Osage, Iowa, and the St. Angers seminary at St. Angers, Iowa, and after being graduated from the latter school attended the State university of Minnesota for three years. In 1896 he came to Blooming Prairie and purchased the "Blooming Prairie Times," becoming the manager and editor. He conducted the paper for one year and then sold out and entered into the general merchandise business which he conducted for nine years when he sold out and again purchased the "Times" and has been its editor ever since. The "Times" is a weekly newspaper having a large and increasing circulation for a village publication. He also makes a specialty of commercial and job printing. In 1906 Mr. Fagre was appointed postmaster of Blooming Prairie and he still holds the office. He was married May 15, 1898, at Mitchell county, Iowa, to Anna K. Maakestad. Three children have been born to them: Kinley I., born October 24, 1901, Nora O. born January 28, 1905 and Alfred T. born March 17, 1908. In his political views Mr. Fagre is a Republican and in his religious belief he is a Lutheran. He has served as president of the Commercial club and as trustee and recorder of the village for several years. His pleasant home is located on second street in the village of Blooming Prairie. He is a self made man, and enjoys the respect and confidence of all who know him.

**Michael J. Fallon** is a native of Minnesota, having been born in Blooming Prairie township on December 29, 1867, son of Michael and Martha (Powers) Fallon, mother born in New York State and the father in Ireland who came to America in 1856 and to Steele county in 1862 locating in Blooming Prairie township, where they took a homestead of 80 acres in Section 22. It was wild land and the father broke and cleared it and erected buildings and later he added 40 acres adjoining and there he carried on general farming until his death February 21, 1909. The mother died in 1880. They had six children: John, Stephen, Elizabeth, Augusta, Ellen and Michael J., of whom only Michael J. and Augusta are now living. Mr. Fallon received his education at the district schools and after leaving school he followed farming with his father, and in 1888 he went to Dakota, and thence to the State of Washington, where he was engaged at civil engineering for the Great Northern R. R. for four years. In the fall of 1893 he returned to the old farm and took charge and has remained there ever since doing a general diversified

farming. Mr. Fallon is unmarried, in his political views he is an independent Democrat, and in his religious faith he is a Catholic. He has served for two years as constable, six years as chairman of the town board of supervisors, and as a director of school district No. 45 for fifteen years. On his farm he breeds Jersey hogs, norman horses and short horn cattle. He had three uncles, his father's brother, Patrick, who came to Steele county at the same time his father did in 1862, their names were Patrick, George Tapliff and Thomas F., and they all took homesteads in Blooming Prairie township, all are now deceased.

**H. F. Gronowski**, a self made and progressive farmer of Havana township, Steele county, was born in Posen, Germany, November 22, 1862, emigrating to America with his parents at the age of twelve years and locating at Owatonna, Minn., where he completed his education. In 1880, he took charge of the 160 acre farm in Section 4, Havana township, which his father had recently purchased. Here he has been engaged in general farming ever since, owing his success to hard and intelligent work. Mr. Gronowski erected a \$3,500 house in 1909, and also a large, modern barn, making his farm, with the other improvements he has made from time, one of the best equipped and up-to-date in the county. All enterprises tending for the good of the community have always had his hearty support. He is a stockholder in the Havana creamery and in the Farmer's Elevator of Owatonna. In politics, he follows the guidance of the Democratic party. Public office has never attracted him, his other interests claiming all his time and attention. Joseph and Anna (Hope) Gronowski, parents of our subject, are natives of Germany, leaving the Fatherland for America in 1874. They still live with their son on the old homestead.

**Christopher N. Hillstad**, a self made and progressive farmer of Havana township, Steele county, was born in Norway, February 19, 1858. He received his education and passed his boyhood in the Fatherland, emigrating to America at the age of fifteen, and locating in Sauk county, Wisconsin, where he was engaged in farming till 1877, when he removed to Havana township, Steele county, continuing in the same line of work. In 1892, he purchased an eighty acre tract in Section 21, Havana, later acquiring 100 acres of improved land in section 27, same township, where he has followed general farming ever since, achieving his success by hard work and up-to-date farming methods. Mr. Hillstad owns a fine herd of cattle and pays much attention to dairying and stock raising. He is a stockholder in the Havana creamery. In politics, he is a follower of the Republican party, and though he has never sought public office, is interested in all that pertains to the good of the county. The

Lutheran Church numbers him among its members. June 27, 1884, he was united in marriage with Olena Nelson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nels Nelson who died on the same day, March 28, 1909, of old age. Mr. and Mrs. Hillstad have eight children, Christina, who is married to Theodore Thompson, of Havana, Nilda, Eddie, Richard, Clarice, Cora, Ruth and Morris.

**Anton J. Haberman**, a merchant of Bixby, was born in Steele county, Minnesota May 27, 1885, son of John and Thresa Haberman, natives of Germany. The parents emigrated from their native land in 1883, locating in Aurora township, Steele county, Minnesota, where the father has followed agricultural pursuits ever since. The mother died in 1903. Anton received his early education in the district schools which was supplemented with a course at the Canfield school of business of Owatonna. Leaving school he directed his attention towards mercantile pursuits, and in 1909 purchased the stock of F. R. Harzberg, general store at Bixby. He has carried on a thriving business at this place since. The Bixby Post Office is in Mr. Haberman's store, his brother being the postmaster. Mr. Haberman is not married. He does not affiliate with any political party, but casts his vote for the candidate who is best qualified in his judgment to fill the office, regardless of party principles. In religious faith he adheres to the Catholic Church. Aside from his store, Mr. Haberman is owner of twenty acres of land in Section 9, Aurora township. He is a public-spirited citizen, always interested in everything that is for the betterment of his village and Steele county.

**G. J. Hovland** was born in Norway, September 14, 1852, son of Gens and Rosa Hovland who came to America in 1875, and located in Wisconsin and engaged in farming which they still follow. G. J. Hovland received his education in Norway and came to America in 1872 and located in Wisconsin where he farmed for seven years and in 1879 he came to Steele county and located in Aurora township and bought 160 acres of land in Section 10, he has since erected a fine dwelling house and out buildings and has greatly improved his land, nearly all of which is under the plow. He carries on a general diversified farming, dairying and stock raising. He was married July 26, 1879, to Belle Thompson and eight children have blessed their home: Peter; Louis (deceased); Sena, now Mrs. Louis Olson; Belle; John; Gilbert, deceased; Rodena, a student at Owatonna High school; and Melvin. Mr. Hovland's political affiliations are with the Republican party, and he is a member of the Lutheran Church. He has served as town treasurer for two years, and has also served as treasurer of school district No. 13, for twelve years, and as road overseer for five years. He is a stockholder in the

Pratt Rural Telephone Company, and is one of the prosperous and successful farmers of Steele county, having the respect and confidence of all who know him.

**Jas. F. Harty** was born November 26, 1877, in Bath, Freeborn county, Minnesota, son of Roger and Mary (Gannon) Harty, natives of Minnesota. The father is a prominent farmer in Freeborn county. The subject of our sketch received his early education in the district schools, which was supplemented with a High school education at Albert Lea and Owatonna. After leaving school he began his career as teacher, and has followed the same ever since in Steele and Freeborn counties, largely in Steele. Since 1897, he has also conducted a store in Blooming Prairie village, corner Main and Railway streets. He carries a full and up-to-date line of wall paper and painter's supplies; also a line of holiday toys in season. During the summer months, he is engaged in paper hanging and painting. Mr. Harty was married September 25, 1907, to Mayme A. McNerney, who was born in Summerset township, March 17, 1880. She is a daughter of Patrick and Anna (Flemming) McNerney, a prominent farmer of Summerset township. The father is still living, the mother died March 5, 1894. Mr. Harty is Democratic in his political views. In religion he adheres to the Catholic Church. He is a very promising young business man, always interested in what is for the good of Blooming Prairie and Steele county, a good citizen, highly respected by all who know him.

**William Henry Hart**, a sturdy old pioneer, who contributed much to Steele county's upbuilding, was born in New York city, November 6, 1838. His father and mother were born and reared in Ireland and came to New York city in 1837. When William was six years of age, his parents with an older son James, emigrated to Fox Lake, Wis., where they engaged in farming. When the Civil war broke out James enlisted as volunteer in the Nineteenth Wisconsin Volunteer infantry, leaving William with the cares of the home. In 1866 he moved with his parents and brother to Havana township where he now resides. After one year of hard frontier life, William returned to Fox Lake, Wis., to bring home a bride Katherine Cruden. Seven children were born to them: Harriet, George, John, William, Charles, Edward, and Alice, all of whom are living but John, who died when an infant of one year. William Hart is a prosperous and successful farmer. He has educated each of the six children so that they are ideal prosperous citizens. He has been foremost in the upbuilding of all new enterprises in the county. He worked hard for the location of Pratt station which has helped the growth of Havana township. He was one of the main leaders in the building of co-operative creameries in this county



and has been a staunch worker in that line since. He has helped lay out and build every mile of road in his vicinity. He advocated and practices the keeping up of good roads. In politics he is Democratic, but he has always worked for the best man for the place, upholding the right and condemning the wrong. Steele county owes much to her early settlers who bore so many hardships and worked with untiring zeal for the building up and beautifying of it.

**Andrew Hjelman**, a prosperous farmer of Blooming Prairie township, was born in Dodge county, April 11, 1864, son of Ole and Ingeborg (Anderson) Hjelman, natives of Norway. The parents emigrated to America in 1862, locating in Dodge county, where the father filed on a homestead of 80 acres. He added to the original homestead until he had 280 acres. This is all in Steele county except the original 80 acres. The father cleared and broke the wild land, made improvements, erecting farm buildings and turned the wilderness into a fertile farm, on which he followed general farming until 1889. He died November 26, 1898. The mother passed away December 25, 1909. Andrew received his early education in the district schools. Leaving school, he took up farming with his father until he was twenty-two years of age. He then rented the old homestead and continued to do so until the decease of his father. At that time, he fell heir to 80 acres of the homestead located in Section 13, Blooming Prairie township. In addition to the 80 acres, he rents land. He is a very progressive farmer and has met with very marked degree of success. Mr. Hjelman was married April 18, 1885, to Thea Bekkedahl. Three children have blessed the union, viz: Ida Marie, dressmaker; Olga Louise and Iver Alfred, both students in the Blooming Prairie High school. Mr. Hjelman is a Republican. He is a member of the Lutheran Church. He has served on the township board as supervisor of Blooming Prairie township. He is now serving the sixth year as a member of the school board of district No. 73. He is a stock holder in the Blooming Prairie Separator Creamery, also, in the Farmer's Elevator. He is a good citizen, highly respected by all who know him.

**Charles D. Hosfield**, for many years an honored and respected citizen of Steele county, Minnesota, was born on his father's farm near Ogsiluby, N. Y., September 6, 1856. He received his early education in the district schools, later being graduated from the Faribault High school after his removal to Minnesota, in 1874. His school days over, he engaged in general farming in Deerfield township, Steele county, with much success, until 1892, when he entered the grain buying business in which he remained up to the time of his decease, April 2, 1899. He was



also interested in the Medford Creamery as a stockholder. Mr. Hosfield was known as a progressive farmer, an upright business man, and in his home a tender and loving husband and father, being universally esteemed and respected by all with whom he came in contact during his active and useful life. In politics, he gave his support to the Republican party, and was ever ready to assist any project for the welfare of the community. The Knights of Pythias counted him a valued member. December 7, 1880, at Owatonna, he was married to Lillian Wier, by whom he had seven children, all of whom are living with the exception of Roy and Maude. Of the others, Ruby H. is a teacher in Warsaw township; Raleigh W., is attending the State university; Fanny B., is engaged in teaching at Medford; Percy C., attends the Faribault High school; and Elizabeth L. is living at home. The family worship at the Congregational Church. William Hosfield, father of our subject, emigrating from England to this country in his younger days, and settled in New York State, where he followed farming till his decease in 1865. The mother passed away October 13, 1883. Mrs. Charles D. Hosfield was born to George and Isabelle (Tupper) Weir, in Wisconsin, October 12, 1859. Her father was a native of England and her mother of Maine. The father came to America in his youth and, locating in Maine, was engaged as a millwright for several years. In 1850, he joined the pioneer movement West, settling with his family at Green Bay, Wis., where he conducted a sawmill until his removal to Steele county, Minnesota, in 1879. Here he followed diversified farming until his death, November 18, 1883. His wife's demise occurred five years later.

**Wencl J. Jerele** was born in Bohemia, October 15, 1873, son of Wencl and Barbara (Ripka) Jerele, natives of Bohemia. They came to America in 1877 and located in Steele county and engaged in farming until 1903 when they retired and moved to Owatonna. The mother died in April, 1898. Wencl received his education in the district schools, and after leaving school and in the year 1897 he purchased 67 acres of wild land in Aurora township, near Bixby on Section 34 and 27. He broke and developed it and has erected a good home and out buildings, where he carried on general diversified farming. He married Anna Ducek and they have three children: Rosa, Albert and Alice. In politics Mr. Jerele is an independent voter and he is a member of the Catholic Church and of St. Joseph Lodge No. 7. He is now a director of school district No. 64.

**O. P. Jenson**, of Blooming Prairie township, was born November 10, 1875. The parents, Nels and Carrie (Olson) Jenson, natives of Denmark, immigrated to America in 1869, locating in Summit township, where the father followed agricultural pur-

suits until the time of his decease, September, 1889. The mother resides at Ellendale, Minn.

O. P. Jenson received his early education in the district schools of Steele county, which was supplemented by a course in the high school at Albert Lea, Minn. After leaving school, he returned to the old homestead where he remained until he became of age. He then learned the butter-maker's trade. His first position was in Ellendale, where he remained for one year. From there he went to Wells, Minn., where he remained four years. Thence to Walters, Minn., where he was engaged for two years. In 1903, he accepted a position as butter-maker of the Union creamery association, which is located in Section 17, Blooming Prairie township. He has carried on the work successfully there ever since.

Mr. Jenson was married June 4, 1893, to Nora Towns. He is a Republican in political sentiment, and is a member of the Danish Lutheran Church. Mr. Jenson is a self made man, a highly respected citizen, well liked by all who know him.

**George J. Johnson**, manager of the Laird-Norton lumber yard at Bixby, was born in Denmark, November 6, 1865. He is a son of Hans and Christina (Jorgenson) Johnson natives of Denmark, who emigrated to America in 1876, locating in Blooming Prairie township, Steele county, Minnesota. The father died in February, 1877. The mother still lives in Blooming Prairie. George received his early education in the public schools of Denmark and the district schools of Steele county. He being the eldest of the children, the responsibility to provide for the family fell on him at the time his father died. He remained on the old homestead of 40 acres, in addition to which he owned 140 acres adjoining in sections 4 and 11, until 1893. In 1893, he took up carpenter work, which he followed for three years. Then he accepted a position as manager for the J. C. Brainerd Lumber Yard at Bixby. Later this yard was sold to the Laird-Norton people, Mr. Johnson being retained as the manager, which position he has held up to the present time. Mr. Johnson was married July 7, 1897, to Freda Reeves. The wife died December 12, 1902, leaving a son and a daughter, viz: Elmër, born August 25, 1900, Alice, born October 30, 1902. Mr. Johnson is a Republican and a member of the Danish Lutheran Church. He served as clerk of the school board for district No. 47 for some time. He is a respected citizen and by his honest upright dealings, he has established a good reputation for the company he is connected with.

**Peter J. Johnson**, a farmer of Berlin township, was born in Sweden, January 11, 1852. He is a son of John Benson and Carrie (Peterson) his wife, natives of Sweden, who engaged

in agricultural pursuits all their lives. The mother died in her native country in 1880. The father survived her five years, when he died also in his native country. The subject of our sketch received his education in Sweden. In 1887, he left his native country to search the larger opportunities of the new world. After arriving in America, he located at Red Wing, Goodhue county, Minnesota, where he remained for three years. He then went to Dodge Center, Dodge county, remaining there one year, whence he came to Steele county and located in Berlin township, where he purchased a farm of 153 acres in Section 16. Here he erected a residence and all the necessary out-buildings, improving the farm until it is now very productive, he has followed general farming ever since. Mr. Johnson was married in June, 1887, to Jennie Sundahl, a native of Sweden. Their home is blessed with three children, Arthur B., Alma F., Carrie E., who are all residing with their parents. Mr. Johnson is a Republican in his political faith but he has never aspired to a public office. He with his family belong to the Baptist Church. He is a very progressive stock farmer, being a breeder of Holstein cattle, Poland-China pedigree hogs, and Percheron horses. He takes a great pride in and pays a good deal of attention to the above named stock. He is actively interested in the public welfare of his community, being a stockholder in the Farmer Elevator of Ellendale. He has acquired all he owns by his own efforts and hard work.

**Smith Johnson**, lately of Medford, is a native of New York being born on February 28, 1828. He was a son of Smith and Elizabeth (Carpenter) Johnson, natives of Vermont and New York respectively. The parents came to Wisconsin in the early days and thence emigrated to Minnesota and located at Medford where they farmed up to the time of the father's decease. Mrs. Johnson died in Wisconsin in 1869. The subject of this sketch came to Minnesota when a young man, and located at Medford where he erected a house for his parents. He was one of the first white settlers to come to this section of the country. He carried on general farming here, and later when his father died he became postmaster, following his father who was the first postmaster in Medford. He held the office about one year and then again took up farming, which he followed up to the time of his death, which occurred August 12, 1907. On November 10, 1857, Mr. Johnson married Sabrina, daughter of Kendall and Polly (Laughling) Wilkins, natives of Vermont. The father carried on farming in the above named state until he arrived at an advanced age when he came to Minnesota and lived near his son, where he resided until the time of his death. Mother also died in Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have one child, Mary

L., now Mrs. George B. Corey, who resides at Medford. Mrs. Johnson lives with her daughter in Medford. In politics Mr. Johnson was a Republican, and he with his family belonged to the Universalist Church.

**George E. Johnson**, the well known dairyman of Blooming Prairie, Minn., was born in St. Charles, Winona county, Minnesota, October 22, 1859. He received his education in the public schools of St. Charles, afterwards assisting his father in the management and working of the home farm till 1883, when he removed to Blooming Prairie and conducted a farm for Edwin Morton seven years. Mr. Johnson then bought an eighty acre tract, partly inside the city limits and lying evenly on the boundary line of Steele and Dodge counties. Here he followed general farming, giving special attention to dairying, till 1900, when he started milk and cream routes, and now devotes his attention exclusively to dairying and the selling of the product. Thoroughbred Jersey and Shorthorn cattle are features of his establishment and have assisted him in the building up of his thriving business. In politics, he gives his allegiance to no party, always casting his ballot as the best interests of the community seem to dictate. He has served his village as alderman for a number of years, and held the office of Master Mason two years. The Blooming Prairie Creamery Association counts him among its stockholders. Mr. Johnson is affiliated with the Order of Blue Masons and Modern Woodmen of America. He is also indented with the Presbyterian Church. In February, 1886, he was married to Mary A. Nelson, of Copenhagen, Denmark. They have five children, all of whom live at home with their parents, with the exception of Edith, who died in 1906. Named in order of ages, they are: Minnie, George H., Rose and Clinton. Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Johnson, parents of George E., are natives of Connecticut. Migrating west, they located in St. Charles, Minn., in April, 1856, the father following farming.

**Alfred E. Johnson**, cashier of the Farmers' and Merchants' State Bank of Blooming Prairie, Minn., was born in Austin, Minn., April 28, 1870. He received his education largely in the public schools of his birthplace, and then completed a course at the Bayliss Business College of Dubuque, Iowa. After school he acquired his first business experience with the John W. Thomas Dry Goods Company, of Minneapolis, being connected with this firm till 1892, when he returned to Austin and entered the employ of George Hirsh (clothing) as a salesman, in which capacity he remained five years. He then entered the Citizens' National Bank of Austin as a bookkeeper, the value of his services being recognized two years later by his appointment as cashier, which position he capably filled until the fall of 1903.



Mr. Johnson thence removed to Madison, Wis., where he was engaged as secretary of the American Plow Company till January, 1904. In May, 1904, he entered upon his duties as cashier of the Farmers' and Merchants' State Bank of Blooming Prairie, with which he is still associated, both as cashier and as a stockholder. In politics the Republican party claims his allegiance. All movements for the good of the county or village are sure of his support. He is now serving his second term as a member of the local school board, and while in Austin held the office of city treasurer. The Masonic Order, Blue Lodge, in which he officiates as secretary, and the Sons of Norway count him as a valued member of their respective organizations. January 2, 1895, he was married to Clara J. Miller, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Miller, late of Austin, now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have two children: Charles Seymour, born December 23, 1895, a student in the local high school, and Grace Laurene, born November 4, 1901. The family worship at the Episcopal and Lutheran Churches. Their residence is on First street. Seymour and Lena (Johnson) Johnson, parents of our subject, were born and reared in Norway. Coming to this country in their younger days, they settled at Waupun, Wis., then but a rude pioneer village, the father being engaged as a blacksmith until the opening of the Civil War. He then enlisted with a volunteer regiment of infantry from Wisconsin, serving his adopted country faithfully until he was mustered out with the rest of his comrades at the close of the war in 1865. Nearly all of the important battles of the struggle saw him as an active participant. He bore arms in Sherman's famous march to the sea. After the war he returned to Waupun for a short period. Later, in 1867, removing to Austin, Minn., he continued blacksmithing and also carried a line of farm machinery, till 1902, when he disposed of his business interests and retired from active work. He still resides with his wife at Austin. Of his brothers and sisters, Frank and Florence died in infancy, and Stella L. is married to Dr. O. H. Higge, of Austin, having three children: Milda, Ralf and Valfreid.

**Lee Brothers**, both natives of Minnesota, having been born on the farm where they now reside, in Berlin township, Steele county, Edward was born March 16, 1879, and Andrew, April 8, 1886. Their parents were Ole and Mary (Johnson) Lee, natives of Norway, who came to America in 1856, and first located in Wisconsin, where they resided until 1866, when they moved to Steele county and located in Berlin township and engaged in general farming on 228 acres of land in section 26. This land the father broke and improved, built a home and out-buildings, and farmed until 1907, when he sold the farm to his



two sons, Edward and Andrew. He then retired from active work until his death, which occurred January 28, 1908; the mother died April 27, 1908. Edward and Andrew received their education in the district schools and Andrew attended the Canfield School of Business at Owatonna, Minn., for two winters. After leaving school they took up farming with the father on the old homestead until 1907, when they purchased the place, and have followed general farming since that time. Two years previous to buying the old home Andrew farmed in Otter Tail county, Minnesota. In politics both brothers are Republicans, and they are members of the Lutheran Church. Edward has served as road overseer and as director of his school district, No. 83. Both are prosperous and successful and are highly respected by all who know them.

**John Johnson Lysne** was born in Norway, November 2, 1846, and there he received his education. He was first married in 1867 to Julia Johnson and they had one child, John Lysne. In 1871 he came to America and located for one year at Kenyon, Goodhue county, and in 1872 he came to Steele county and located in Aurora township. In 1875 he purchased forty acres of land in section 23; he has added to this at different times until he now has 220 acres, 140 in section 26, and eighty in section 23. He has built a fine home and outbuildings and follows general diversified farming. When Mr. Lysne came to America he had only one cent and he owed \$25, but by his own perseverance and industry he has won success in his new home. In 1900 he was married a second time to Anna Luthen, and six children have been born to them: Joseph, Raymond, Martin, Nunda, Harry and Margaret. In politics Mr. Lysne is an independent voter, and in his religious faith he is a member of the Lutheran Church. He is a stockholder in the Oak Glen Creamery Association of Bixby. He has never held or aspired to public office, but he is interested in all that pertains to the best interest of the community where he resides, and is a good citizen, respected by all who know him.

**Hans Larsen**, thrifty farmer of Blooming Prairie township, was born in Denmark, October 8, 1850. His parents, Lars and Anna (Christiansen) Christiansen, natives of Denmark, died in their native country. Hans received his early education in the public schools of Denmark. After leaving school, he learned the milling trade, which he followed for five years. He then engaged in the bakery business. He served in the standing army of his country from April until September. In August, 1878, he immigrated to America, locating in Blooming Prairie township, where he purchased a farm of 160 acres in sections 20 and 21. He has been engaged in agricultural pursuits ever since. Mr. Larsen

was married November 1, 1878, to Kirsta Johnsen. Two children have blessed the union: Mary, died December 11, 1902; Peter, born December 25, 1885, living with his parents. Mr. Larsen is a Republican in political sentiment. He is a member of the Baptist Church and a good citizen. He is one of those men who have aided in building up this great state.

**Hans P. Mork**, an industrious and thrifty farmer of Steele county, was born in Denmark, March 16, 1859. He received the most of his education in the Fatherland, emigrating to this country with his parents at the age of thirteen, and remaining on his father's farm in Havana township, Steele county—which his father purchased immediately after landing—until attaining manhood. Since leaving home, he has been very successful in his farming operations, now owning 120 acres of improved land, sixty of which are under cultivation, the remainder furnishing a good income as pasturage and woodland. Stock raising is carried on quite extensively, Shorthorn and Durham cattle, Poland-China hogs and good horses being raised. An apple orchard of 100 trees is one of the profitable features of this farm. Mr. Mork has lived on his present place since 1892, and has added numerous improvements. In politics he is a believer in the doctrines of the Republican party, but his other interests have prevented him from seeking office. In 1884 he was united in marriage with Carolina Mortson, by whom he had nine children, eight of whom are living: Alfred, Mary, William, Lillie, Otto, Harry and Clarence and Charles are twins. The family attend worship at the Lutheran Church. Nels and Anna (Larson) Mork, parents of our subject, came over from Denmark in 1872, and located in Havana township, Steele county, where the father followed general farming up till 1900. Five children, all boys, four of whom are living, were born to them. They are now living, retired, with their son.

**Erik J. Moe**, a prosperous farmer of Havana township, Steele county, was born in Hafflo-Prastjald, Indre-Sogen, Norway, April 4, 1857. He acquired his education in his native land and assisted on his father's farm till his emigration to America in 1879. Arriving in this country, he first located near Sleepy Eye, Brown county, Minn., where he was engaged in farming for eight months, afterwards removing to Havana township, Steele county, and continuing in the same occupation till 1883, when he took a ten months' trip to the Pacific coast, returning to Steele county. Later, in 1890, he purchased a farm of eighty acres in section 9, Havana township, on which he has followed up-to-date farming ever since with marked success, making a specialty of raising and breeding high grade Durham cattle and Poland-China hogs. In June, 1902, Mr. Moe lost his barn, machine

sheds and other outbuildings by fire, but rebuilt the following fall, erecting his barn and other buildings after the most modern patterns. The Havana Creamery values him as a stockholder and patron. In politics he is a loyal adherent of the Republican party. The Lutheran Church also claims him as a member. December 24, 1883, he was married to Anna Johnson by Rev. Ole Melby, at Havana. They have six children: Lena and Mettina, who reside in Owatonna; and Anna, Agnes, John and Gerhard, living at home. Erik J. is a son of Johannas E. and Mattie (Quam) Moe, natives of Norway, where the father still follows farming. The mother died in 1901.

**Father David L. Murray** was born in Providence, R. I., September 1, 1850. He is a son of Lawrence and Mary (Kennelly) Murray, natives of Ireland, father of the city of Dublin and mother of the city of Cork. The parents immigrated to America in 1842, locating in Providence, R. I., where the father engaged in the lumber business all his life. The firm was known as Albert Daley & Co. The father died June 14, 1878, and the mother died August 15, 1888. The subject of our sketch received his early education in Providence, and in 1871 entered the Holy Cross College at Worcester, Mass., graduating from the said institution in 1877. He then entered the Grand Seminary of Montreal, Canada, from which he graduated in 1881. September 25, 1882, he was ordained to the Catholic priesthood at St. Paul, Minn., by Bishop Ireland. On October 1, 1882, he came to Blooming Prairie as priest to the St. Columbanus parish, where he has about 360 souls. Father Murray is a Democrat in political sentiment. He is a member of the K. of C., Daughters of Erin, Ladies' C. O. F., A. O. H., C. O. F. Father Murray has always taken an active interest in the welfare of Blooming Prairie, and is very highly honored by all who know him.

**H. C. Nelson**, proprietor of Pleasant Hill farm, of Blooming Prairie township, was born in Denmark, April 15, 1857, son of Nels and Elizabeth (Christensen) Nelson, natives of Denmark, where they passed their lives. The subject of our sketch received his early education in his native land. Then he learned the weaver's trade, which he followed for a period of six years. He then followed agricultural pursuits until 1882. At this time he emigrated from his native land to seek his fortune and establish himself in the new world. Arriving in America, he located in Blooming Prairie township. In 1884 he purchased a farm in the above mentioned township, where he engaged in farming until 1892. At this time he sold his first purchase and bought eighty acres in section 23, where he erected a home and has followed general farming since. Mr. Nelson was married August 22, 1889, to Mrs. Hannah (Johnson) Peterson. She had two

daughters by her former marriage. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Nelson is blessed by one daughter, Alice, who lives at home.

Mr. Nelson is a Republican and belongs to the Free Mission Church. He has served as a member on the school board.

**Roy H. Naylor**, a native of Minnesota, was born in Merton township, Steele county, on December 9, 1877. He is a son of Arthur C. and Carrie (Jarrett) Naylor. The father was born in Illinois and the mother in Dodge county, Minnesota. In 1855 the father located in Merton township, on section 35, where he carried on general farming until 1909, when he retired and moved to Owatonna. Roy received his education in the district schools in Merton township, and then took a two years' course at the Faribault high school and three years in the Owatonna high school. He then attended the Canfield School of Business and in 1903 accepted a position as steward at the state public school at Owatonna, which he now holds. He was married on August 27, 1904, at Prescott, Wis., to Miss Jessie K. Johnson. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Naylor: Sherwood L., born August 29, 1905, and Stanley R., born August 3, 1909. In politics Mr. Naylor is a Republican, and he is a member of the Methodist Church. He is also a member of the Masonic Order, the I. O. O. F., and the B. A. Y. He lives at his pleasant home, No. 446 Flora street, in the city of Owatonna, where he enjoys the respect and esteem of all whom know him.

**Robert P. Nelson**, who owns a fertile farm in Blooming Prairie township, was born in Blooming Prairie village, November 24, 1872. His parents, Peter and Christina (Miller) Nelson, natives of Denmark, immigrated to America in 1869. They located in Blooming Prairie township, where they acquired some land, which they greatly improved, cleared, broke, erecting the necessary buildings, etc. The father was engaged in general and diversified farming here until 1904, when he removed to Kerry county, Nebraska, where he now resides. The mother died in 1887. Robert received his early education in the district schools of Steele county, which was supplemented by a course at the St. Ansgar College at St. Ansgar, Iowa. He also studied at the Decorah Seminary, of Decorah, Iowa. Leaving school, he returned to Blooming Prairie and took up house painting. Later he accepted a position with Siegel, Cooper & Co., of Chicago, as traveling salesman. This he followed until 1902. He then took up painting, which he followed for four years. In 1904 he returned to the old homestead and engaged in agricultural pursuits. The farm is located in sections 15 and 22 and consists of 160 acres. Mr. Nelson is a progressive farmer. He makes a specialty of raising Duroc-Jersey hogs.



Mr. Nelson was married May 20, 1903, at Ellendale, Steele county, to Hannah Jorgensen. Their union is blessed with two children: Myrtle, born August 4, 1904; Loring, born June 6, 1908. Mr. Nelson is a Republican. He is a member of the Lutheran Church. He is also a member of the M. W. A. and the Royal Neighbors. Mr. Nelson takes a good deal of interest in co-operative enterprises and is a member of the Union Creamery Association and a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator at Blooming Prairie. He is a good, highly respected citizen.

**Lewis Odegard**, who conducts a general mercantile business at Anderson, Havana township, Steele county, was born in Norway, February 5, 1856, coming to America with his parents the same year, who located in Dane county, Wisconsin. Four years later they removed to Goodhue county, Minnesota, where Lewis received his education, supplementing this with a course in St. Olaf College at Northfield. After school he followed farming for two years in Steele county, and then went to Yellow Medicine county, same state, where he engaged in the carpenter trade, following this line throughout Dodge, Goodhue, Freeborn, Yellow Medicine and Steele counties until April, 1907, when he started a general store at Anderson station, Steele county, of which he is still sole proprietor. Mr. Odegard is also postmaster of Lysne, which, with his thriving mercantile trade, makes him a very busy man. In politics he is a stanch Republican, and has always taken a keen interest in the welfare of the community, having served as town clerk, justice of the peace, assessor, and was at one time in charge of the Sioux Agency in Yellow Medicine county during the pioneer days. He is a follower of the teachings of the Lutheran Church. January 7, 1904, he was married to Mary Johnson (Nelson). They have no children. Ole and Anna Odegard, parents of Lewis, were born in Norway, emigrating to America in 1856, and, settling in Dane county, Wisconsin, remained there four years. They then removed to Holden, Goodhue county, Minn., where the father carried on farming. Later went to Yellow Medicine county, in 1880, continuing to follow farming there ever since. The mother died in September, 1909.

**Nels H. Ohnstad** was born in Urland, Norway, in 1847, son of Hans Nelson and Annie (Olson) Ohnstad, and came to America with his parents in the year 1870. They lived on a small farm near Cannon Falls, Goodhue county, Minn., until the death of Mr. Ohnstad, Sr., in 1890. Nels H. came to Steele county in 1874 and purchased a farm of 160 acres in section 25 of Berlin township, where he now resides. Later he purchased forty acres, and then 180 acres more, making in all a farm of 380 acres. He was married in 1874 to Miss Isabelle Hanson



Vaughan, and nine children have been born to them, of whom six are now living. Hans died in 1876, at the age of one year; Hans Olai also died in 1878; Andrew is now a farmer in Berlin township; Henry died in 1902, at the age of twenty-one years; Oliver, now a farmer in Berlin and Summit townships; Isabelle, now Mrs. Charles Johnson, of New Richland; Hannah, now Mrs. Carl Aronson, of New Richland; Gabriel and Nicolai, both living at home with their parents. Mr. Ohnstad is a successful farmer. He has erected new buildings and greatly increased and improved his farm. He is a stockholder in the Ellendale Bank, the Ellendale Creamery, the Farmers' Elevator Company of Ellendale, and the Farmers' Telephone Company of Ellendale. Three years ago he made a visit to his old home in Norway, and was present at the coronation of the new king. In his political views he is a Republican, and he is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran Church.

**Peter Pump**, for many years a prominent citizen of Meriden, Steele county, was born in Holstein, Germany, September 28, 1845. After receiving a good education in the Fatherland, he emigrated to this country in 1866, locating in Illinois, near St. Louis, and opening a blacksmith shop, though a locksmith by trade. A new country had more opportunities for a blacksmith, however, and so he continued in this line of work until 1876, removing to Meriden Station, Steele county, in 1870. For a time during the early days, when money was scarce, he was in very straightened circumstances and had difficulty in keeping the wolf from the door, but by hard work and economy he gradually fought his way upward. In 1876 he turned his attention to farming, meeting with much success, now owning 180 acres of well improved land in Meriden township, with a fine home on it, occupied by his son, Theodore, who conducts the farm. He is also the owner of a comfortable home in Meriden Station, situated on an acre and a half of land. In political convictions he is a Democrat, and is still actively interested in local politics, now serving as chairman of the town board, and was formerly town treasurer four years. He was married in 1870, to Mary Vogelmann, by whom he had six children, four of whom are living, named as follows: Metta, married to F. W. Schultz, a farmer of Meriden township; Lena, wife of Carl Kujalt, who is engaged in farming in Waseca county; Emma, now Mrs. Charles Enzenauer; Theodore, who has charge of the home farm, married Zena Altenberg. Thies and Metta (Page), parents of our subject, are still residing in Germany, their native country. The father has been across on a visit to his son. Marcus and Anna (Grimm) Vogelmann, parents of Mrs. Peter Pump, passed all their lives in Germany. They are both deceased.

**John Pichner, Jr.**, a well-known farmer of Owatonna township, was born in Steele county, October, 16, 1868. He is a son of John Pichner, whose sketch also appears in this volume. After receiving his education in the district schools, John, Jr., assisted his father in carrying on the old home farm until his marriage in 1891, when he launched out for himself in Owatonna township. He now owns 100 acres of well improved land, which he has been very successful in making a paying proposition. About half of the farm is under cultivation, the remainder yielding rich returns as woodland and as pasturage. Dairying claims much of Mr. Pichner's attention, since he has an unusually fine herd of Durham cattle. He is a stockholder and patron of the Havana creamery. Mr. Pichner has been very successful in breeding and raising high bred Duroc hogs. In politics he follows the guidance of the Democratic party, and has served seven years as township supervisor and five as town clerk. The C. S. P. S. and the Z. C. B. J. orders of Owatonna number him among their active members. He was married September, 1891, to Mary Wavrin, daughter of Joseph Wavrin. William, John, Edward and Vlasta, all living at home, are the children of this marriage. Joseph Wavrin, father of Mrs. Pichner, is a native of Bohemia. Coming to Steele county at an early date, he engaged in railroad work for a number of years, and then purchased a farm in Owatonna township, on which he still resides.

**Louis Peterson** was born in Denmark, July, 1872, and came to America with his parents, Nils and Johannah Peterson, when he was one year of age. In 1874 they located in Aurora township, Steele county, and purchased eighty acres of land in section 23, where the father farmed until his death, December 12, 1890. Louis received his education in the district school, and after leaving school engaged in farming on the home farm with his father until his father's death; since then he has conducted the farm with his mother. They are engaged in general diversified farming, and give especial attention to dairying and stock raising. Mr. Peterson has one brother and one sister: Mary, who lives at home, and Peter, of Blooming Prairie township. He is a single man, a Republican, and a member of the Lutheran Church. He is a stockholder in the Oak Glen Creamery Company of Bixby. He has never held public office, but is a good and respected citizen.

**John J. Pribyl**, of the Blooming Prairie Iron Works, was born in Summit township, Steele county, May 10, 1886, son of John and Anna (Seykora) Pribyl, natives of Bohemia. The parents emigrated from their native land in the early years, locating in Summit township, where they purchased 200 acres of land,

on which they have done general farming ever since. John received his early education in the district schools of Summit township. After leaving school he engaged in farming and carpenter work, which he followed until 1909. At this time he purchased the Srsen interest in the Blooming Prairie Iron Works, forming a co-partnership with F. H. Skalicky. They do all kinds of repairing, and manufacture flax cleaners, pump jacks, letter boxes for farm use, Srsen friction pulleys, Srsen roller feed mills, wood saws, three and four horse eveners, grain elevators, water tanks, trip hammers, emery stands. They also deal in automobile supplies, threshing machinery supplies, pipes and fittings, shafting hangers, rubber and leather belting, machine oils, etc. They also manufacture hay slings. Mr. Pribyl is not married. He affiliates with the Democratic party. In religious faith he adheres to the Catholic Church. He is also a member of the Catholic Workmen. Mr. Pribyl is a promising young business man, a good citizen; he has made his way in the world by his own hard work and persevering efforts.

**Joseph PirkI**, a thrifty farmer of Blooming Prairie township, was born in Bohemia, February 12, 1856. He is a son of Bernard and Josephine (Matejcek) PirkI. The father was born May 8, 1824, and the mother, February 24, 1825. They came to America in 1870, locating in Wisconsin, where they remained for one year. They then moved to Steele county and located in Summit township, where the father was engaged in farming all his life. He died May 5, 1881. The mother died February 12, 1890. Joseph received his early education in Bohemia. He immigrated to America with his parents in 1870. He was engaged in agricultural pursuits on his father's farm until twenty-four years of age. He then bought 120 acres of land in section 16, Blooming Prairie township, to which purchase he added until he now has 200 acres. He erected buildings on this land, made all necessary improvements, and has been engaged in general and diversified farming ever since. Mr. PirkI was married May 23, 1879, to Josephine Strancky. She is a daughter of Joseph and Josephine (Skalicky) Strancky. Fourteen children have been born to them, viz.: Marie R., born June 4, 1880, died March 14, 1881; Joseph, born August 14, 1881; Marie, born July 11, 1882, died July 14, 1885; Adolph, born April 26, 1884, died July 2, 1890; Josephine, born December 26, 1885, died February 15, 1907; Anna, born February 26, 1887, died June 8, 1894; Marie, born June 25, 1889; Matilda, born May 19, 1891, died September 6, 1894; Frank, born January 16, 1893; John, born June 14, 1895; Albert, born December 28, 1896; Ludmila, born January 24, 1900; Albina, born and died the same day; Adolph, born and died October 4, 1901. Mr. PirkI is a Democrat. In religious

faith he adheres to the Catholic Church. He is a stockholder in the Union Creamery. He makes a specialty of breeding Shorthorn and Durham cattle, and has met with a marked degree of success in the enterprise. He is a progressive farmer and a good citizen.

**Peter Peterson** was born in Denmark, May 11, 1844, son of Thomas and Walberg (Juul) Peterson (deceased). The parents spent all their lives in their native country. Peter received his education in Denmark. Then he took up agricultural pursuits, which he followed until he immigrated to America in 1872. After arriving here, he spent three years in Iowa, Illinois and Wisconsin. In 1875 he made a visit to his native land, Denmark. Returning in 1876, he located in Blooming Prairie township, where he bought 160 acres of land from William Rice, of Owatonna, in section 21. This being wild land, he had to clear, break, erect buildings, and make all necessary improvements. He developed the wilderness into a fertile farm, where he followed general and diversified farming until 1904. Since this time the farm has been conducted by his eldest son, Thomas. Mr. Peterson was married October 27, 1876, to Helene Marie Skov. The wife passed away April 16, 1907, leaving a family of six children to mourn her loss, viz.: Thomas, who resides on the old homestead; Mary, now Mrs. Henry Jensen, of Blooming Prairie township; Anna, now Mrs. Alvin E. Ashley, of Mason City, Iowa; Hans, who lives in Canada; Emma and Sena, both living at home. Mr. Peterson is a Republican. He belongs to the Lutheran Church. He was treasurer of the township for a good many years. He is also a stockholder in the Union Creamery, and the Farmers' Elevator of Blooming Prairie. He is a good citizen and highly respected by all.

**Thomas Peterson**, a native born son of Minnesota, was born on the farm where he is now located, northeast quarter of section 21, in the month of March, 1877, son of Peter Peterson. He received his early education in the district schools of Steele county, which was supplemented by a course at Eekhom College of Iowa, where he went to school two winters. He then learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed for five years, two years in Canby, Yellow Medicine county, and three years in Blooming Prairie, Minn. In 1904 he returned to the old homestead, took charge, and has continued to improve it, and has looked after the farm since. Mr. Peterson is not married. He is a Republican in political sentiment, is a member of the Lutheran Church. He takes an active interest in public affairs, and although a young man, has served the township as assessor for two years. He is now serving the fourth year as secretary



of the Union Creamery. He is a progressive, enterprising farmer, a good and highly respected citizen.

**Soren Peterson**, manager of the Oak Glen Creamery, of Bixby, was born in Steele county, Minnesota, November 6, 1876. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Nis. Peterson. Soren received his early education in the district schools of Steele county, which was supplemented with a course at the Elkhorn College, of Shelby county, Iowa. In 1899 he engaged in butter-making, first at the Union Creamery Association of Blooming Prairie township, where he remained for nearly three years; then he came to Bixby as assistant buttermaker for the Oak Glen Creamery. In 1906 he accepted a position as head buttermaker for the above named institution. He has filled that position with credit ever since, and has won a reputation for himself among the patrons of the creamery. Mr. Peterson was married October 15, 1908, to Martha, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nels Ray. Their union is blessed with one child, Mildred Anna, born August 13, 1909. Mr. Peterson believes in the principles of the Republican party. He is a member of the Danish Lutheran Church. He is recognized as a good citizen, a loving husband and father.

**Sam Ray**, an enterprising merchant of Bixby, first saw the light of day in Aurora township, Steele county, June 25, 1882. He is a son of Nels and Annie Ray, natives of Norway. The father immigrated to America in 1877, the mother in 1880. The father first located in Freeborn county, where he remained for years. In 1879 he came to Steele county, locating at Aurora township, where, in 1880, he purchased 160 acres of land, on which he has followed agricultural pursuits ever since. Sam received his early education in the district schools, which was supplemented by a course at the Canfield School of Business at Owatonna. After leaving school he went West, where he remained for a period of four years. During this time he was engaged in various occupations, such as lumbering, farming, and for some time hotel clerk at Fargo, N. D. June 25, 1909, he purchased the stock of L. W. Thompson's general store at Bixby, where he has since been engaged in the general mercantile business. He carries a full line and has built up a good business. Mr. Ray was married November 12, 1907, to Jennie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. Johnson, of Aurora township. Their union is blessed with one child, Arnold Ray. Mr. Ray affiliates with the Republican party. In religious faith he is a member of the Lutheran Church. He is a good citizen and enjoys the respect of the whole community.

**T. A. Runge**, a prosperous farmer of Havana township, Steele county, is a native of that township, his date of birth being April 10, 1872. He received his education in the district



schools, helping his father with the working of his large farm meanwhile, and later devoting all his attention to it until 1897, when he bought 160 acres in section 15, Havana township, where he has followed general diversified farming ever since. He is now completing a commodious and up-to-date barn, thirty-two feet by seventy, and has added numerous other improvements from time to time. Mr. Runge is a believer in intelligent farming and his quarter section is a fine example of the results of such a course. As to politics, he stands independent, believing that no party should dictate his vote, and always casting his ballot for the man he considers the best qualified for the office. He is an adherent to the tenets of the Lutheran Church. In May, 1897, he was married to Mary Schroeder, by whom he has four children: Adeline, Elsie, Bertha and Mary. Fred and Fredricka (Hanebuth) Runge, parents of our subject, were born in Germany, where they resided till their emigration to America. Immediately after their arrival in the land of promise, they located in Chicago, soon afterwards removing to Steele county, Minnesota, and buying 320 acres of land in Havana township, where they followed farming till the father's death. They were among the very earliest pioneers of this county, and had their full share of the usual harrowing experiences and hardships. The mother is still living.

**Nels S. Ray** was born in Norway, January 13, 1853, son of Samuel Olson and Ingeborg (Nelson) Ray. The parents were natives of Norway, and the father died there in 1860. The mother came to America in 1880 and died in 1896. Nels received his education in Norway, came to America in 1878, locating at Albert Lea, Freeborn county, and remained there for two years. In 1870 he came to Steele county and rented farms for two years, and then bought his present farm of 156 acres, located in section 34, of Aurora township, and here he has built his home and has followed general farming ever since. He was married June 6, 1881, to Anna Boe and six children have been born to them: Samuel, a merchant at Bixby; Iver; Martha, now Mrs. Swen Peterson; Sownwin, lives at home; Hogan, of Faribault; and Ioa. In politics Mr. Ray is a Republican. He has been supervisor for two years, and treasurer of school district No. 63 for two years, and he is a stockholder in the Oak Glen Creamery of Bixby. He is a good citizen and has the confidence and respect of all.

**Fred R. Roskopf** was born in Washington county, Wisconsin, April 3, 1853, son of F. and Thresa (Miller) Roskopf, both natives of Germany, who came to America in 1840, and located in Washington county, Wisconsin, where they engaged in farming. In 1867 they moved to Waupun, Wis., where they re-

mained three years. In 1870 the father came to New Ulm, Minn., and lived there until his death, in 1891. The mother died in Wisconsin. Mr. Rosskopf received his education in the public schools of Wisconsin and Minnesota, and after leaving school he first engaged in the livery business at New Ulm, Minn., in company with his brother Charles, where they remained for four years. In 1875 he came to Owatonna and engaged in the cigar business for a while, and then tended bar for ten years, when he again entered into the livery and transfer business, which he followed for sixteen years, when he sold a one-half interest to Mr. Jefferson and later his remaining interest to Mr. Green, going to Spokane, Wash., in 1901, where he engaged in the furniture business for a year and one-half, when he sold out and returned to Owatonna, where he assumed the management of Owatonna City Brewery, where he has since remained. Mr. Rosskopf was married July 13, 1877, to Miss Matilde Knight, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Knight, of Owatonna. Five children have blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Rosskopf: Lillian, Louise, now Mrs. H. F. Stout, of Owatonna; Harry, Magdelene and John. Mr. Rosskopf's political affiliations are with the Democratic party, and in his religious faith he is a Congregationalist. He is a member of the F. O. E. and the U. C. T. He has won his success by his own efforts, and has the respect and confidence of all who know him.

**Alois L. Srsen**, a prominent and respected business man of Blooming Prairie, Minn., was born in Somerset township, Steele county, December 20, 1877. He received his education in the district schools, afterwards taking up tinsmithing at Owatonna for three years. He then learned the machinist's trade, following this line of work all the while in Owatonna, till 1898, when he came to Blooming Prairie and opened a machine shop, which he conducted with much success until April 14, 1909. Mr. Srsen then sold out, and started a plant for the manufacture of automobiles and gasoline engines, in which he is still engaged, having a growing and thriving business. The Blooming Prairie Iron Works numbers him among its stockholders. In politics he follows the guidance of the Republican party, and is interested in all that stands for the good of his town and county. Numerous fraternal organizations claim him as a member—the Modern Woodmen of America, E. F. U., Z. C. B. J., and the Western Bohemian Brotherhood. He attends the Catholic Church. September 21, 1899, in Somerset township, he was united in marriage with Anna Kaplan, by whom he has two children: Alfred, born December 29, 1900, and Hubert, born August 17, 1902. Charles and Catherine (Mach), parents of Alois L., were born and raised in Bohemia, leaving the Father-

land for America in 1865, and locating in Somerset township, Steele county, where the father followed general farming till 1895, when he removed to Owatonna with his wife and family. He died in December 1900, and the mother in February, 1908.

**Emil Stangler**, one of Steele county's leading farmers, was born in Le Sueur county, Minnesota, July 25, 1869. He received his education in the district schools, afterwards engaging in farming with his father until 1892, when he removed to Dakota, returning the following year to Le Sueur county. Three years later he purchased 200 acres of improved land in sections 30 and 31, Havana township, Steele county, where he has been engaged in general diversified farming ever since. Mr. Stangler is a staunch believer in scientific, progressive agriculture, and his farm is a splendid example of what an up-to-date farmer can accomplish. He has a full line of modern machinery and his farm buildings are the best of their kind. Dairying has always claimed much of his time, and he is an active supporter of the Pratt creamery, having served as its president two years, and is still a stockholder. In politics he follows the guidance of the Democratic party. He has served his township as road superintendent. The Owatonna Catholic Order of Foresters, No. 678, counts him a loyal member. January 7, 1896, he was united in marriage to Ernstina Springer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Springer. They have two children: Leonard and Margaret. Joseph and Barbara (Spindler) Stangler, parents of our subject, were natives of Europe. They emigrated to this country in 1864, settling in Le Sueur county, where the father followed farming till his retirement in 1893. The mother died June 4, 1906. Her husband is still living.

**Joseph Skalicky**, a thrifty farmer of Blooming Prairie township, was born in Bohemia, May 5, 1855, son of John and Emelia Skalicky, natives of Bohemia. The parents both died in their native country. Joseph acquired his education in Bohemia. He emigrated from his native country in 1874 to seek the opportunities of the new world. Arriving in America, he located in Blooming Prairie township, where he engaged in farm work. Two years later he purchased forty acres of land and in 1878 he purchased 120 acres additional, adjoining the first forty acres. This was wild, unimproved land, which he has developed into a fertile farm, and on the place he has erected fine farm buildings. Mr. Skalicky was married January 21, 1876, to Matilda Pirk. Thirteen children have been born to their union: Matilda, deceased; Mary, now Mrs. B. Hurska, of Summit township; two Annies, deceased; Annie, now Mrs. Vinc. Mikyska, of Wisconsin; Helena, married Frank Skalicky, of North Dakota; Frank, Ludmila, Frances, all deceased; Ma-

tilda, now Mrs. Frank Vasesicek, of North Dakota; Josephina, Joseph, Bessie, all residing at home. Mrs. Skalicky was born October 1, 1859, daughter of Bernard and Josephina Pirk. The parents immigrated to America in 1851. They are both deceased. Mr. Skalicky is a Democrat in political sentiment. He with his family are members of the Catholic Church. He is interested in several commercial enterprises, being stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator in Blooming Prairie, and a member of the Union Creamery Association. He is a good citizen, highly respected by the community.

**A. Solberg**, for many years a prosperous and respected business man of Blooming Prairie, Minn., was born in Norway, November 24, 1848. He received his education in the Fatherland, coming to America at the age of nineteen with his parents and locating at Durand, Ill., where he worked at the carpenter's trade with his father. Removing to Chicago, Ill., in 1871, he pursued the same line until his arrival in Blooming Prairie, in 1889, continuing in the same line for two years. He then started the retail lumber business, in which he has been engaged ever since with marked success. In May, 1903, the company was incorporated as the A. Solberg Lumber Company, with T. A. Halvig, president; Soren Peterson, secretary and treasurer, and with Mr. Solberg as manager, under whose direction the affairs of the firm have grown and prospered to large proportions. Besides a well selected stock of all varieties of lumber, they carry a first-class line of windmills and pumps, with all accessories. In political matters the Republican party has his allegiance. He has ably served his village as president of the school board, and one year as assessor. The Modern Woodmen of America, Sons of Norway, and the local Commercial Club count him among their loyal members. He is also affiliated with the Lutheran Church. April, 1875, at Oxfordville, Wis., he was married to Carrie Brunvald. They have four children: Laura, wife of Anton Thorson, of Mackwell, N. D.; Alfred, deceased; Ina, now Mrs. T. N. Osmun, of Mackwell, N. D., and Melvin, of Wabasha, Minn. Johannas and Olava Solberg, parents of our subject, were natives of Norway. Coming to this country, in 1867, they settled in Durand, Ill., still in its pioneer days, where the father followed his trade as a carpenter until his removal to Chicago, in 1872, continuing in the same line till 1877. He then moved to La Crosse, Wis., where he resided up to the time of his death, in 1891. The mother died in 1896.

**Frank Skerik**, a native of Havana township, Steele county, was born November 10, 1874. He received his education in the district schools, later assisting in the management of the home farm, and after the death of his father, May 13, 1906,



assuming complete charge. Here he has followed general farming ever since, having built up one of the best equipped and most productive farms in the county. Mr. Skerik is a valued stockholder of the Havana Creamery, and also of the Farmers' Elevator Company of Owatonna. In politics he is a supporter of the Republican party, and has served his school district, No. 24, as treasurer. The Presbyterian Church counts him a loyal member. Joseph and Katherine (Janousek) Skerik, parents of Frank, are natives of Bohemia, emigrating to America October 28, 1873, and settling on an eighty-acre farm in section 30, Havana township, Steele county, where they engaged in farming. In 1895 they bought an adjoining tract of sixty acres, erecting a new home and adding modern outbuildings to their then 140-acre farm, which their son Frank now manages. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Skerik had five children: Joseph, now of Silver Lake, McLeod county, Minn.; Anna, wife of Joseph Wavrin; John, a minister, located at Moravia, Austria; Frank, our subject; and Mary, who is the wife of Carl Jirousek, of Owatonna.

**Erick E. Simes**, a native of Norway, was born September 13, 1871. He received his education largely in the Fatherland, supplementing this with a two-year course in the Valder Seminary of Decorah, Iowa, shortly after his arrival in this country in 1894, first locating at Leroy, Minn. After school he spent one year in a lumber yard at Blanchard, N. D., returning to Leroy and engaging in milling for the next six years, after which he traveled a season for the International Harvester Company. Mr. Simes then, in 1905, removed to Blooming Prairie, Steele county, and entered the employ of the L. G. Campbell Milling Company, as foreman of the loading department, soon afterwards being promoted to buyer and foreman of the feed department, and in September, 1909, was appointed local manager of the company, in which capacity he has been very successful. In politics the Republican party numbers him among its supporters, though he has never aspired to political office, his other interests demanding all his time and attention. The Modern Woodmen of America and the Sons of Norway count him a loyal member, as does the Lutheran Church. December 2, 1901, he was united in marriage with Josephine May Herman, at Osage, Iowa. They have one child, Kenneth Eugene, born August 11, 1908. The family residence is located on First street. Erick E. and Elizabeth (Hammer), parents, of our subject, are natives of Norway, where they still reside, the father being a captain in the royal army.

**George B. Stearns**, manager of the Farmers' Elevator at Ellendale, is a comparatively new comer in Steele county, but during his residence he has been closely identified with its



business interests. Mr. Stearns was born in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, December 26, 1854, and was taken by his parents to Waseca county, Minnesota, in 1856. He there grew to young manhood, receiving his education in the district schools and farming with his father. In 1877 he purchased a farm of eighty acres in New Richland township, Waseca county, which he operated until 1884, when he became foreman for the famous Carbondale Stock Farm, in the same county. In this position he remained three years. He then engaged in the general hardware business for himself in New Richland village, successfully continuing this business until 1894. In that year he disposed of his business and became a co-partner with Frank Blakeslee in circus life, their show being known as the "World's Fair and Wild West Hippodrome." After a short period he withdrew from this concern and became wheat buyer for the New Richland Milling Company, continuing for five and a half years. He then again entered the hardware business, this time conducting a store at Worthington, Minn., for one year. After a short period on his father's farm in Otisco, he came to Ellendale, Steele county, and accepted his present position as manager of the Farmers' Elevator and Milling Company, which position he now holds. He is also interested in the hardware business in Ellendale. A Republican in politics, Mr. Stearns was treasurer of New Richland village for two years.

**Gust Thiele**, postmaster and general merchant at Pratt, is one of the highly respected and prosperous men of Steele county, who has risen to his present position by dint of his own energy and persistent industry. He was born in Wisconsin, February 8, 1866, his parents migrating thither from Germany. His schooling was received at North Bend, Wis. Mr. Thiele was a farmer in Somerset township from 1894 until 1902. In the latter year he purchased a general mercantile business at Pratt village, Aurora township. He is also postmaster, having been appointed to that position in 1907. As a merchant, Mr. Thiele has met with marked success, and enjoys a very flourishing business. He was married October 2, 1894, to Libbie Sholes. Four children have blessed this union: Ethel, born April 19, 1896; Harvey, born August 14, 1900, died March, 1901; Hazel, born June 6, 1902; Archie, born November 14, 1906. Mr. Thiele is a Republican in politics and a member of the Presbyterian Church. He is clerk of school district No. 59 and a stockholder in the Pratt Creamery. Gust Thiele and his wife, Mary Ahlborn, the parents of Gust Thiele, of Pratt, are natives of Germany. They came to America as small children, and after their marriage they located in Wisconsin, and engaged in farm-

ing until 1907, when they sold their farm and retired to a village home at Iron River, where they now live.

**J. A. Volker** has served his community for nine years as chairman of the supervisors of Havana, and is a fine example of a prosperous and self-made farmer. He was born in Eleysing, Minn., August 24, 1866, where he received his education in the public schools, afterwards taking up general farming with his father. In 1884 he came to Steele county, being located in Aurora township for nine years, then coming to Havana township, where he purchased 120 acres in section 31, later adding eighty acres in section 32. He has erected commodious and modern buildings on his premises and through intelligent and progressive farming methods has achieved much success. Mr. Volker is a Democrat in political faith, and has always taken a lively interest in the affairs of the community. He is now serving as secretary of the Pratt Creamery Association and is a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator Company of Owatonna. The German Lutheran Church claims him as a member. Our subject is a self-made man in every sense of the word, having but \$200 to his credit when he left the parental roof and started in life for himself. May 2, 1893, he married Lena Zimmerman, by whom he has three children, named, respectively, Fred, Carl and Harry. Mr. and Mrs. August Volker, parents of our subject, were natives of Germany, where they passed the most of their lives.

**Harry G. Wood**, a physician located at Blooming Prairie, was born in Faribault, September 6, 1882. His parents, Fannie S. and William C. Wood, came West in the sixties and reside in Faribault. Dr. Wood graduated from Shattuck School, at Faribault, in 1899, and received his medical degree from McGill University, Montreal, in 1904. He spent one year following graduation as interne at the Montreal General Hospital, and since 1905 has practiced medicine in Blooming Prairie. He is a member of the county and state medical associations, also of the B. P. O. E., the Masonic Order and the Ancient Order of the Mystic Shrine.

**John C. Wilker**, a substantial farmer of Meriden township, was born in that township, June 19, 1876. He received his education in the schools of district No. 39, and after leaving school he worked on a farm until he attained his majority. In 1910 he settled on his present farm of 160 acres of well improved land and is at present following diversified farming with much success, his fine herd of Durham cattle being equaled by few in the county. In politics he gives his allegiance to the Republican party, and has served the community as a school officer for six years, now being both a member of the school board and of the

board of supervisors. He was united in marriage March 2, 1910, with Anna Ahlers, daughter of John Ahlers, a native of Germany. They have two children: Ewaldt, born September 5, 1903, and Erwin, born December 5, 1905. Mr. and Mrs. Wilker attend the German Lutheran Church. John H. and Emelia (Welk) Wilker, parents of our subject, are natives of Guttenburg, Iowa, and of Stravabelauf, Germany. The father came to this country with his parents in 1856, and purchased land in Meriden township, where he followed general farming for many years, seeing the gradual development of the county from its earliest pioneer days to present times. The Republican party claims him as a member, and he has held many township offices of trust. In religious matters he is a follower of the teachings of the German Lutheran Church. Seven children were born to him by his first wife, only two of whom survive their mother, who died in 1891. They are John C., our subject, and Albert H., who is farming on the old homestead. Mr. Wilker was married again to Emma Drache, to whom was born one child, Minnie. The family reside on Walnut street, the father having retired from active work.

**Frank Zwiener**, a retired farmer of Blooming Prairie township, was born in Prussia, March 8, 1827, son of Frank and Lena (Stark) Zwiener, natives of Germany. The father was a mason by trade. The parents lived all their lives in Germany and died there. Frank received his education in Germany and then learned the cooper's trade, which he followed until coming to America. He immigrated to America in May, 1854, locating first in New York state. He then came west to Milwaukee, where he followed his trade for three years, after which he removed to Jefferson county, Wisconsin, where he engaged in farming. In 1876 he came to Steele county, locating in Blooming Prairie township, where he purchased 160 acres of land, eighty acres in section 11 and eighty acres in section 12, where he erected his home and farm buildings, broke and improved the land, and followed general and diversified farming until 1909. At this time he sold the farm to a son, F. A. Zwiener, but still resides on the old homestead. He also owns sixty-four acres in section 1 and seventy-four acres in section 2.

Mr. Zwiener was married in Germany, February 28, 1852, to Thresa Bartsch. The wife died July 27, 1907. Five children were left to mourn her death: Anton J., farmer and clerk of Blooming Prairie township; H. L., bookkeeper at Ortonville, Minn.; E. A., lives at home; F. A., who now owns and conducts the old homestead; and Almond, hardware merchant of Ortonville. Mr. Zwiener is a Democrat in political sentiment. In religious faith he adheres to the Catholic Church. He enlisted

in the Union army, August 12, 1862, in Company E, Twentieth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He was promoted to corporal and served in nine prominent battles with his regiment. He was discharged at the end of the service, in 1865, at Galveston, Texas, and mustered out at Madison, Wis. He is a member of the James A. Goodwin Post, G. A. R., of Owatonna. He has served seven years as supervisor of his township. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator of Blooming Prairie.

**Eli Martin Morehouse, M. D.**, was an ideal representative of that type of rugged pioneer physician now long since passed from this section of the country. He was the first physician in Steele county, locating in Owatonna in 1855, with no other physicians nearer at that time than Rochester, Mankato, the Twin Cities and McGregor. In the days of his early practice he kept relays of horses stationed at different points quite long distances from town and would often be absent several days at a time, sometimes making hundreds of miles at a trip, his itinerary covering all of southern Minnesota and northern Iowa. For the first two or three years his riding was done on horseback, even in the winter months. With this experience he acquired a wide acquaintance and obtained a greater popularity than any other physician in southern Minnesota if not in the entire state. This popularity continued until the day of his death. The majority of his staunchest and truest friends were among common people. While he had a very large clientele among those in the higher walks of life, they received no favors that were not bestowed with equal cheerfulness upon the poor. As a practitioner of medicine Dr. Morehouse was a man of infinite resource. He possessed that intuition which many men inherit from the maternal side, and which gives them an insight into the mysteries of nature often deeper than can be obtained by any manner of inductive reasoning. Dr. Morehouse was born at Warren, Trumbull county, Ohio, March 2, 1835. His parents were Nelson and Sarah (Johnson) Morehouse. His father, Nelson Morehouse, was a mill owner and his grandfather, Eli Morehouse, was a veteran of the War of 1812. Eli M. received an academic education in his native town and commenced reading medicine when a mere lad. At seventeen he had graduated in medicine and at eighteen commenced practice at Warren, having received his diploma from the University of Medicine and Surgery at Philadelphia. In 1853 Dr. Morehouse crossed the Mississippi and engaged in practice at Independence, Iowa. Early in 1855 he came to Minnesota and from that time until the day of his death was in constant practice at Owatonna with the exception of a short period in 1864, when he took a trip to the Northwestern states and territory in search of gold and adventure. He was absent for about



two years, practicing part of the time at Virginia City, Nev. After this trip he again resumed his practice in Owatonna. In May, 1871, he was one of the leading spirits in the formation of the Minnesota State Eclectic Medical Society, of which he was the first president. He was also a member of the National Eclectic Medical Association, having in his early life received diplomas from the New York and Cincinnati Eclectic Medical Colleges. He was chosen a member of the state senate in 1877 and the following year was upon seven committees, including those of public lands, Indian affairs, State University and State Library. In the early days he was a Republican, but after the war became a Democrat. Aside from this he held many positions of public trust and private honor and there were few positions in the gift of his fellow citizens that could not have been his for the asking. He was an Odd Fellow and a high degree Mason. From his arrival in Owatonna until the date of his death Dr. Morehouse took an interest in the commercial prosperity of the city. In 1874 he built the old Morehouse Opera House, later the Merchants Hotel and still later the present Morehouse Block, which houses the Owatonna Hotel and many business concerns. In addition to this he owned hundreds of acres of improved land throughout the county. He was several times alderman from the Third ward, and at the time of his death was serving his third term as mayor of Owatonna. He was the prime mover in the installing of the water works system in Owatonna. For some years he was engaged in the general mercantile business. His death occurred May 23, 1891, at the age of fifty-six years. His funeral services were held in Central Park and were attended by probably the largest assemblage ever present on such an occasion in the history of the county. On August 19, 1868, Dr. Morehouse was united in marriage to Lorinda A. McRostie, a native of Ogdensburg, N. Y. To this union four children were born, viz: Eli Martin, practicing medicine at Yankton, S. D.; Effie L., wife of John W. Adsit, of Owatonna; Timothy N., deceased; Guel G., physician and surgeon of Owatonna.

**Dr. G. G. Morehouse**, one of the younger of the successful physicians of Steele county, is a native born son of Owatonna, having first seen the light of day October 27, 1876. He attended public schools and then entered the high school, graduating with honors in 1897. Determined to follow in the footsteps of his father as a medical practitioner, he entered the Bennett Medical College at Chicago, receiving his diploma in 1902. The following year he spent at the University of Indiana at Valparaiso, graduating in 1903. He then took the usual hospital practice in the Cook county hospital for one year and a half. Thus being admirably equipped he returned to his native town in 1904 and



has since continued the practice of medicine and surgery with considerable success. He has built up a large practice and is highly regarded by his wide circle of friends. Being thoroughly ethical in practice he associated himself with the American state and county medical associations. He is a high degree Mason and affiliates also with the Knights of Pythias. He belongs to the Commercial Club and is a prominent member of the Minnesota State and Steele County Automobile Clubs. Since 1905 he has served as examining surgeon for Company I, Second Regiment Minnesota National Guards. Aside from his professional interests Dr. Morehouse possesses business holdings in Owatonna and is one of the proprietors of the Owatonna Hotel, which is the leading hostelry of Steele county.

**Norman Evans**, banker, financier and business man, is a fine example of successful American manhood, having by hard work, frugality and honesty attained his present rank of trust and honor in the community. He was born in the country village of Minerva, Essex county, New York, amid the picturesque scenery of the Adirondacks, his parents, Richard and Cynthia (West) Evans, being native New Yorkers. His ancestors on his father's side were of an old Welsh family, who settled in New York City in the eighteenth century, and on his mother's side were men and women of colonial and Revolutionary fame, who trace their lineage to the Mayflower. The early education of Norman Evans was received in the district schools of his native village. Being thorough believers in education, his parents sent him to a neighboring high school, and later on—after he had decided to devote his life to business rather than to the professions—he pursued a business course in the Bryant and Stratton commercial college at Troy, N. Y. With this preparation, he started in life for himself as a general merchant in Minerva. In 1878, with a view of securing greater opportunities and a wider field, he came to Minnesota, and for three years conducted a general store at Dover, in Olmsted county, subsequently maintaining a similar store in Blooming Prairie, Steele county, for seven years. A venture in the shoe business in Sioux Falls, S. D., while proving a success financially, strengthened him in his resolve to make Minnesota his permanent home; consequently he came to Owatonna, and for eight years engaged in the drygoods business. He then started his career as a banker by buying a private bank, which he conducted in connection with a large real estate business in Dodge county. Later he organized the Farmers National Bank of Dodge Center, and became its president. In 1904 he purchased a large interest in the First National Bank of Owatonna, becoming one of the directors of that institution which he served for three years. A trip to the coast, during

which he visited the large cities of the West, studying business conditions, was followed on his return by the purchase of a controlling interest in the Security State Bank of Owatonna, of which he has since been its honored president. Mr. Evans is a high degree Mason, a Knight Templar and a member of the Modern Woodmen. He is also a member of the Congregational church, of which he was a trustee for nine years. Although never active in politics, Mr. Evans did efficient work on the public school board, during his residence in Dodge county, and has on many occasions served his community in matters of trust and honor. He is an admirable citizen, and his record speaks for itself as to his ability, as well as to his interest in public affairs. He was married February 7, 1875, to Helena M. Bradley, daughter of Commodore Henry Bradley, a prominent citizen of Essex county, New York. Two sons have been born to this marriage, Paul H., who is cashier of the Security State Bank, and Robert K., who is still in school. The family residence is "Gynnedd Crag" on South Cedar street. Richard and Cynthia W. Evans, parents of Norman Evans, spent the earlier years of their lives in New York state and moved to Olmstead county, Minnesota, in 1879. In 1890 they moved to Owatonna, making their home with their son the remainder of their days. Richard Evans was a heavy land owner and lumber dealer in New York and amassed a comfortable fortune, of which he gave generously to many Owatonna institutions.

**Paul H. Evans**, the efficient cashier of the Security State Bank of Owatonna, was born in Minerva, N. Y., April 5, 1876, son of Norman and Helena M. (Bradley) Evans. When two years of age he was brought by his parents to Dover, Minn., and from there went to Blooming Prairie, Minn. After attending the public schools of Blooming Prairie, he entered Pillsbury Academy at Owatonna, having moved to Owatonna in 1890 and graduated with honors in 1895. This was supplemented with a two years' course in Beloit College at Beloit, Wis. Thus equipped with a liberal education, he came to Owatonna and became a reporter on the Owatonna Journal, filling this position one year. In 1898, in company with his father and W. G. Brown, he engaged in a banking and real estate business in Dodge Center, Minn. This business continued until 1904, when the Farmers National Bank of Dodge Center was organized. The same year the Evans interests in this bank were sold, and Norman and Paul H. Evans purchased heavy holdings in the First National Bank of Owatonna. The subject of this sketch was elected cashier and director of the institution and held these positions until 1907. The Kinyons then acquired the Evans holdings by purchase, and Norman and Paul H. Evans secured a controlling

interest in the Security State Bank of Owatonna. Paul H. became cashier and director of this institution, and has had an important part in bringing the bank to its present high standard of soundness and progressiveness. Mr. Evans is a high degree Mason, and belongs both to the Commercial Club of Owatonna and to the Tomahawk Club. He served four years as a private in Company I, Second Minnesota National Guard. Amid a career filled with business activities, he has found time to attend to the higher duties of life, and has done good service as superintendent of the Congregational Sunday school. Mr. Evans was married July 26, 1905, to Adeline C. Wheelock, daughter of Lewis L. Wheelock, of honored memory. Mrs. Evans is a graduate of the Owatonna high school and a former student of Carlton College at Northfield. The Evans home has been blessed with two daughters: Norma W., born August 4, 1907, and Ruth B., born February 7, 1909. Mr. Evans is a progressive young man and is greatly interested in everything that tends toward the material development of Steele county.

**S. A. Kubat** was born in Steele county June 20, 1870, son of Samuel and Matilda (Blazek) Kubat, natives of Bohemia. The father emigrated to America in 1856, locating at Freeport, Ill., where he remained only a short time. He then came to Minnesota in 1858, locating at Owatonna township, Steele county, where he engaged in general farming until 1906. At this time he retired from active life and moved to Owatonna, where he now resides. The subject of our sketch attended the district schools of Owatonna township, which was supplemented with a course in the high school at Owatonna. In the summer of 1892 he entered the employ of Parrott & Smith, in whose employment he still remains, now being the head man of their firm. Mr. Kubat was married in 1896 to Inga, daughter of Ole and Katherine Krogh, natives of Norway. The mother died when Mrs. Kubat was five years of age. Mrs. Kubat was born in Vadsa, Norway, February 21, 1872, came to America in 1886 and made her home in Owatonna ever since. Mr. Krogh has been in Alaska, but is now in the state of Washington. Besides our subject, there are two brothers and five sisters in this family, viz: Anna M., now Mrs. William Zatocill, at Michigan City, N. Dak.; William O. lives in Owatonna; Henry L. farms in Havana township; Matilda, now Mrs. C. H. Markytan, farms in Owatonna township; Josie is married to J. W. Slezak and lives in Somerset township; Olga and Elsie live with their parents. Mr. Kubat is a Republican. The family reside at 139 West Mill street.

Mr. Kubat is prominent in fraternal circles and is a member of the following orders: Star of the West, No. 14; I. O. O. F., Canton No. 12; Alma Rebekah, No. 27; Owatonna Aerie, No.

1719, F. O. E.; Tenoch Council, No. 16, A. O. A.; Grand Lodge, A. O. A.; Owatonna Camp, No. 387, M. W. of A. He also belongs to the Owatonna fire department and the Owatonna military band. In the Odd Fellows especially, Mr. Kubat has been an earnest worker. He has had all the honors in the subordinate lodge, Encampment and Canton. He has been district deputy grand master in the subordinate lodge, district deputy grand chief patriarch in the Encampment, and at present is captain of the Canton. He is a charter member of the Ancient Order of Aztecs and has been honored with all the different offices therein. He is now grand vice commander and chairman of the finance committee of the grand lodge, A. O. A.

**Nels Lee**, deceased, was born in Norway in May, 1843, where he received his education. He came to America in 1867 and located in Steele county, and three years later bought a farm in sections 22 and 23 of Aurora township, where he built his home and outbuildings and followed general farming until his death, which occurred May 11, 1903. In his political views Mr. Lee was a Republican and he was a member of the Lutheran church. He never held or sought public office, but he was a good citizen, interested in everything that was for the best interests of his town and county, and respected by all who knew him, leaving an honored heritage to his children. Mr. Lee was married in 1870 to Anna Larson, and to them were born seven children: Mrs. Albert Anderson, of Pratt; Mrs. John Vass, of Owatonna; Mrs. Charles Watts, formerly of Minneapolis, now deceased; Mrs. Thorvold Nylius, formerly of Minneapolis, now deceased; Rena Lee, of Minneapolis; Mrs. August Arndt, of Owatonna; Mrs. Edward Jackson, of Owatonna. Mrs. Anna Lee died in 1884. Mr. Lee was married June 6, 1887, to Hannah Johnson, born in Norway May 27, 1854, came to America in 1884 and still survives her husband. Two children were born to this union. Bertha, born February 28, 1888, is now Mrs. John Johnson, and lives on the old farm. Agnes, born March 2, 1892, is now Mrs. Knute Moe, of Aurora township.

**Roy H. Naylor**, a native of Minnesota, was born in Merton township, Steele county, December 9, 1877, a son of Arthur C. and Carrie (Jarrett) Naylor, both parents were natives of England, they came to America, and in 1855 the father located in Merton township on section 35, where he carried on general farming until 1909, when he retired and moved to Owatonna. Roy received his education in the district schools in Merton township and then took a two years' course at the Faribault high school. He then attended the Canfield school of business and in 1903 accepted a position as steward at the State public school at Owatonna, which he now holds. He was married on



August 27, 1904, at Prescott, Wis., to Jessie K. Johnson. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Naylor: Sherwood L., born August 29, 1905, and Stanley R., born August 3, 1909. In politics Mr. Naylor is a Republican and a member of the Methodist church. He is also a member of the Masonic order, the I. O. O. F. and the B. A. Y. He lives at his pleasant home, No. 446 Flora street, in the city of Owatonna, where he enjoys the respect and esteem of all who know him.

**Martin Nelson** was born in Denmark January 1, 1841. He came to America in 1868, first settling in Illinois. In 1875 he moved to Steele county and settled in Aurora township, where he farmed until 1895, when he rented his place and moved to the village of Bixby. In 1899 he sold the old homestead and is now conducting a feed stable.

**Francis M. Bassett**, a successful and well known business man of Owatonna, and who has a beautiful home at 129 East Rose street, was born in New York City January 17, 1870. He is the son of Walter I. and Melissa (Nash) Bassett, of Brooklyn, N. Y. The father is a plumber by trade. In 1878 he emigrated West to Minneapolis to take charge of the plumbing business for J. J. Dunnigan, a large plumbing and steam fitting establishment. He had charge of all the plumbing and steam fitting at the Capitol and the Ryan Hotel at St. Paul, where he is now located. Our subject received his education at the public schools of St. Paul; then took up the plumbing trade for three years. He was then employed by the St. Paul Bottling Works for eighteen years, having charge of it for five years. He was also with the Highland Springs Company of St. Paul. On July 5, 1904, he came to Owatonna as manager of the Mineral Chemical Company and has held that position ever since. Mr. Bassett was married September 6, 1896, to Kate Reinhard. Their home was blessed with one child, May Kate, who was born May 28, 1898. Mr. Bassett is a Republican. He belongs to the Episcopal church. He is also a member of the I. O. O. F., I. O. F., A. O. A. and F. O. E.

**James A. Kent**, a well known dentist of Blooming Prairie, Minn., was born in Hamilton, Ontario, September 20, 1865. His education was received in the public schools of his birthplace and at the Niagara high school, near his home. He then went to Philadelphia and was enrolled in the Philadelphia Dental College, receiving his degree as a Doctor of Dental Surgery, in 1887, and opening offices in Minneapolis the same year, where he remained in the practice of his profession until 1890, when he removed to Red Wing, Minn., in which place he was engaged in dentistry for three years. In 1893 he removed to Blooming Prairie, his present location, and enjoys a large and growing



practice. As to politics, Dr. Kent is a believer in the principles of the Republican party and has served one term as justice of the peace. The Knights of Pythias value him as an active member, as does the Congregational church. March 26, 1890, he was married to Laura Tubbesing, daughter of Peter and Margaret (Vogt) Tubbesing, of Red Wing, where the father still lives, the mother is deceased. Dr. and Mrs. Kent reside on Fourth street. E. R. and Sabra (Angle) Kent, parents of James A., were natives of Sheffield, England, coming to Canada in their younger days and locating at Hamilton, Ontario, the father being engaged as a crockery and glassware manufacturer until 1881. He then entered the real estate business together with O. A. Pray, R. F. Hulbert, Mr. Minnford and C. G. Pillsbury, of Minneapolis, the company having extensive land and mining interests in Minnesota and northwestern Canada. In 1888 he retired and returned to Hamilton, where he died in April, 1889. The mother died in November of the same year.

**E. F. Laughlin**, a hustling and progressive farmer of Merton township, Steele county—his birthplace—was born July 2, 1868. After receiving a good education in the district schools he immediately engaged in farming, first with his father and later for himself. He now owns a hundred and sixty acres of productive land, a hundred of which is tillable, the remaining sixty acres being used mostly for pasturage. In addition to general farming he carries on stock raising on an extensive scale, breeding and raising thoroughbred Percheron horses, Holstein cattle and Duroc Jersey hogs; also breeder of Scotch collie dogs. The use of modern buildings and machinery add to the profits of the place, a large up-to-date barn, forty by sixty-four, fourteen-foot post, comfortably housing all the stock. Mr. Laughlin also has a modern dwelling house. As to political convictions he is a Democrat and has always taken an active part in local affairs, having served as assessor during 1902 and 1903 and has been town clerk since 1905. He was married, in 1895, to Bertha A. Conlin, by whom he has six children: James A., Catherine L., Edward E., Mary E., Raymond P. and Lucile. John H., the father of our subject, is a native of Pennsylvania; his mother, Katie, (Conway) of Steele county, Minnesota. The father joined the Westward tide of emigration, in 1866, locating on his farm in Merton township, Steele county, where he still resides. Besides attending to the working of his farm he was a stock buyer for three years during his younger days. His good wife lives with him on the old place. Patrick and Mary (McGrath) Conlin, parents of Mrs. E. F. Laughlin, are old settlers of Minnesota, where the father carried on farming for many years. They are

now living in California on a fruit farm, and also own some mining property.

**William Wanous**, a hustling farmer of Steele county, was born in Owatonna township September 2, 1879. His boyhood was spent on his father's farm, meanwhile receiving his education in the district schools. Leaving school he engaged in farming on the old homeplace with his father, and now has entire charge of his father's 160-acre farm in Owatonna township, and has succeeded in making it one of the most productive pieces of land in the county. Much of his attention is given to stock raising, owning a well selected herd of Durham cattle and a large number of Poland China hogs. In politics he is a follower of the tenets of the Republican party. The C. S. P. S. and the Modern Brotherhood of America number him among their members. October 25, 1905, he was married to Emma Truhlar, daughter of Frank Truhlar, of Owatonna. Mr. and Mrs. Wanous have two children: Viola, born August 27, 1906, and Elmer, born March 27, 1910. Our subject is a son of John and Anna (Jerousek) Wanous, the father being born in Bohemia August 10, 1830. After acquiring his education in his native land he worked at the cloth-making trade for a time and then served nine years in the regular army. In 1862 he came to America, locating in Chicago two summers and subsequently removing to Steele county, where he followed farming on a rented farm for two or three years. He then purchased twenty acres of land, and by thrift and economy gradually became the owner of 455 acres of good farm land. In politics he has always adhered to the doctrines of the Republicans and has been a loyal member of the C. S. P. S. for many years. In 1861 he was married to Arna Jerousek, by whom he has eleven children, named as follows: John F., a farmer of Owatonna township; Joseph, also engaged in farming in this state; Wencil, farming on the homeplace; Anna, wife of Frank Simon, a farmer of Clinton Falls; Josephine, a dressmaker at Owatonna; Samuel, whose sketch appears elsewhere, is engaged in farming in Havana township; Mary, wife of Milo Kubat, a jeweler of Owatonna; Ida is clerking for E. J. Kasper & Co.; William, our subject; Eva, wife of Ben Reinhart, a lumberman; and Aggie, wife of Frank Dostal, an electrician.

**Peter Eliason**, a prosperous farmer of Deerfield township, was born in Sweden of Norwegian parents, February 10, 1854. Peter attended school in Norway. When he was eighteen years old he came to America and was employed a year by the Great Northern Railway Company at St. Cloud. Coming to Goodhue county he worked near Zumbrota for five years before buying the 150 acres of land upon which he has since made his home. The timber with which much of his land was covered furnished materials

for farm buildings and improvements. Mr. Eliason in his general farming has taken special pride in the Durham cattle which flourish in his pastures. In the fall of 1877 Peter Eliason was married to Sarah Larson at Owatonna. Eleven children have resulted from this union, seven of whom are now living: Elias M. is a mail carrier at Owatonna; Mrs. Pauline Schroeder has a home in South Dakota; Mrs. Annie Lawrence; Hans, a married brother, and Mrs. Mary A. Beese live in Deerfield; Tina attends high school in Owatonna; Palma is still at home; Louis was killed in a railroad wreck at twenty-four years of age, and three children died in infancy. Mr. Eliason is a member of the Lutheran church and the society of Modern Woodmen. For more than twenty years he has served as chairman of the town board. School district No. 92 was organized by Mr. Eliason, who built the school house and has acted as clerk of the school board ever since. He is a stockholder in Meriden Creamery and the farmers elevator at Owatonna and has helped in the promotion of these enterprises. Elias Olson and Margaret Gilland, his wife, parents of the subject of this sketch, were natives of Norway, where the mother died in 1875. The father came to this country and made his home with his sons. He died at Peter's home in Meriden in 1897.

**Henry T. Blume** is a native son of Minnesota, having been born in Havana township, Steele county, on April 30, 1870. He is a son of Henry and Dorothea Blume, natives of Germany, who came to America and located at Havana township and engaged in farming and have lived there ever since. Henry received his education in the district schools of Havana township and after leaving school engaged in farming with his father until he was twenty-six years of age. In 1896 he came to Aurora township and purchased a fine farm of 240 acres located on sections 27 and 34. He has erected a fine dwelling house and some fine and commodious farm buildings, has greatly improved his land and does general farming. He has a fine herd of Durham cattle and makes a specialty of dairying. Mr. Blume was married June 27, 1897, to Caroline Kruger, and six children have been born to them, of whom four are now living: Albert, deceased; Annie, deceased; George, Elsie, Dora and Herbert. In politics he is a staunch Republican and he is a member of the German Lutheran church. He has served his town as constable for two years and also as road overseer. He has served on the school board twice by appointment to fill out unexpired terms. He is a stockholder in the Oak Glen Creamery of Bixby. He is a good citizen and one of the substantial farmers of Steele county.

**Charles F. Sette**, a respected citizen of Owatonna, Minn., was born on his father's farm in Dodge county, Wisconsin, October

26, 1855. His boyhood was passed largely in Steele county, Minnesota, where his parents removed nine years after his birth, and in the characteristic district schools of those rude pioneer times he acquired his education. After school he bought a farm near the old homestead and there followed general farming four years, then removing to Hand county, South Dakota, in 1884, where he purchased a 200-acre tract of land on which he was engaged in progressive agriculture till 1905, having one of the model farms of that county. Mr. Sette then came to Owatonna, buying a charming home which is still his residence. In politics the Republican party claims him as a member. He served the community as treasurer of his township and school board many years while in South Dakota. Anything for the good of the city has his support. The German Methodist church counts him as one of its loyal members. December 11, 1878, he was married to Minnie Grabinski, who died in South Dakota June 10, 1904, leaving two daughters, Esther, now Mrs. William Ebert, of Webster, S. Dak., and Clara, wife of Fred Hoffman, of Lane, S. Dak. Mr. Sette was married a second time October, 1906, to Mrs. Matilde Sorenson Bletner. Carl and Minnie (Franz) Sette, parents of our subject, were natives of Germany, coming to this country in their younger days and locating in Dodge county, then in its infancy, where the father followed general farming until 1864. They then removed to Steele county, purchasing a quarter section in Owatonna township, on which the father was engaged in farming till his retirement in 1898. His wife died in 1900 and his decease occurred in 1903.

**Ole J. Anderson** is a son of John and Christy (Hove) Anderson, natives of Norway, who came to America in 1864 and settled on a farm in Wisconsin, where they remained until 1872, when they came to Steele county, Minnesota, and purchased eighty acres in Berlin township and here the father continued farming until his death in 1898; the mother died in 1896. After the death of his father Ole took charge of the farm and has conducted it ever since. In 1904 he purchased 240 acres of land and follows general farming, giving especial attention to dairying. In 1887 he was married to Mary Ellingson and twelve children have been born to them: John, who died in 1896 at the age of nine years; Annie, age twenty-one; Edward, age nineteen; Clara, age seventeen; Henry, age fifteen; Joseph, age thirteen; Jennie, age eleven; Mary, age nine; Edna, age seven; Louisa, age five; John, age three; Ole, age one and a half; all the children are living at home. In politics Mr. Anderson is a Republican and he is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church. He has served the town as supervisor for four years and was a trustee of the Norwegian Lutheran church for six years, of which he is a member.

He is a stockholder in the Ellendale Creamery and in the Farmers Elevator Company of Ellendale. Mr. Anderson is a very successful farmer and has won his success by his own efforts. He is a good citizen, highly respected by all who know him.

**August Petersen**, a thrifty farmer of Blooming Prairie, was born in Denmark February 28, 1855, son of Peter and Monstina Petersen, natives of Denmark. The parents immigrated to America in 1885. The mother died in 1906. The father is still living with our subject. August received his early education in the public schools of Denmark. When twenty-six years of age, in 1881, he left his native land to seek the larger opportunities of the new world. Arriving in America he located in Blooming Prairie township, where he purchased 160 acres of land in section 21. On this land he has made extensive improvements and followed general farming up to the present time. Mr. Petersen was married in November, 1880, to Anna Hanson, a native of Denmark. Ten children have blessed their union, viz.: Hannah, Fred, Mary, Peter, Albert, Dena, Alfred, Harvey, Richard, Luella. Mr. Petersen is a Republican in political sentiment. In religious faith he adheres to the Baptist church. He is a good citizen, a progressive farmer and one of those men that have aided in making Minnesota one of the most productive states in the Union.

**Henry Nelson**, a prosperous merchant of Blooming Prairie, was born in Denmark August 17, 1867, son of Conrad and Mary (Francis) Nelson, natives of Denmark. The parents emigrated to America in 1872, locating at Saginaw, Mich., where they remained for about two years. In 1874 they came to Freeborn county, Minnesota, where the father engaged in agricultural pursuits up to the time of his decease in 1898. The mother died in 1875. Henry received his education in the district schools. Leaving school he learned the harness-makers' trade. He followed his trade in different places in Minnesota and Iowa, going to Owatonna in July, 1891. He remained there two years and then located in Blooming Prairie, where he opened a business for himself. He has met with a marked degree of success and now conducts two stores in the village. He manufactures light and heavy harness, does all kinds of repair work and carries a complete line of horse furnishing goods. Dr. E. W. Cooley is associated with Mr. Nelson as a partner.

Mr. Nelson was married August 28, 1893, to Mamie Jefferson, of Owatonna. Their union is blessed with eight children, viz.: Mande, Raymond, Helen, Leonard, Doris, Lucile, Caroll, Ruth, all living at home. The family home is located on Sixth street. Mr. Nelson is a Republican. He worships at the Baptist church. He is also a member of the M. W. A. Mr. Nelson is an enter-



prising business man, a good and respected citizen. He has served on the city council for three terms.

**Rasmus Petersen**, of Blooming Prairie township, was born in Denmark February 3, 1861. He received his early education in his native land, after which he followed the occupation of farming. In 1881 he left his native country for the New World. After arriving in America he located in Blooming Prairie township. In 1884 he went to Michigan, where he was engaged in the iron mines for one year. He then returned to Blooming Prairie, where he followed farm work, and in 1898 he purchased a 160-acre farm in section 14, Blooming Prairie township. He has greatly improved this farm and follows general and diversified farming, but pays more attention to dairy and stock raising. Mr. Petersen was married September 5, 1888, at St. Paul to Lena Andersen, a native of Denmark. Their union is blessed with four children, Peter N., George, Albert and Agnes. Mr. Petersen is a Republican in political faith. He with his family worship at the Danish Lutheran church. He is a member of the M. W. A. He is interested in everything that is for the good of the community and is a stockholder in the Blooming Prairie Creamery. He has made his way in the world by his own hard work and perseverance. He is a good citizen, respected by all.

**J. F. Finley**, city weigh master of Owatonna, was born October 22, 1860, in Richland township, Rice county, Minnesota. He is a son of J. H. and Emaline (Close) Finley, natives of Ohio and Indiana respectively. The parents came West in 1855, locating in Richland township, Rice county, where the father was engaged in general farming up to 1892. At this time he entered the hotel business in Owatonna, conducting what was known at that time as the Mooney House. He continued this business for a few years, then sold out and has since lived a retired life. Mrs. Finley died in 1873. The subject of our sketch received his education in the district schools of Richland township. Leaving school he worked on a farm for some time, and in 1892 he came to Owatonna, entering the machine business in partnership with J. F. Wilson. They continued this business for five years, when they sold out their machine business, Mr. Finley going to Dodge Center, where he engaged in the harness business. He remained there for about one year, then returned to Owatonna and bought the dray business of George McCarty. He continued this business for about six months. About one month after purchasing the business he was taken seriously ill, and was unable to do anything for about four years. After recovering from his illness he entered the coal business, which he continued for six months, and then sold out to Pike & Robins. He then went to Austin, Minn., and bought a half interest in a grocery and butcher busi-

ness, which he continued for about four years. Disposing of his interest, he returned to Owatonna and engaged in buying and shipping stock, which he continued to do for about two and one-half years. He then bought a livery business of Henry Conklin and Gil Russel. He was engaged in this business for about one year, then sold out to Philip Anderson. In the spring of 1908 he was appointed city weighmaster, which position he has held ever since. Mr. Finley was married in 1881 to Addie M., daughter of Edgar and Maria (Atwater) Horton. The parents were natives of New York state, where they both died. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Finley: Lelia, now Mrs. Herbert Cruikshank; Alta, telephone operator at Faribault; Mattie and Clifford are both residing at home. The family resides at 504 East Vine street. Mr. Finley is a Republican. He is a member of the Baptist Church, also a member of the M. W. A. and the E. F. U. Mr. Finley served as city treasurer of Owatonna four years. He also served four years as deputy sheriff under Sheriff Misgen.

**Orie H. Ferrell** is a native of Minnesota, having been born in Owatonna March 7, 1869, a son of Theodore and Lucinda (Brown) Ferrell. Orie received his education at the district schools of Havana township, supplementing with a course at Pillsbury academy. After leaving school he first engaged in farming, but in 1890 he removed to Owatonna, purchased five acres of land and engaged in market gardening, and for three years was employed as night moulder at the Owatonna Manufacturing Company. He has purchased more land from time to time, and now has fifty-eight acres on which he follows farming. In 1902 he engaged in the sand and gravel business, both these products being found in abundance on his land. He was married on November 8, 1888, at Owatonna, to Frances A. Chase, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Chase. The father died April 22, 1902, and the mother is still living at Spokane, Wash. Two children have blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ferrell: T. Howard, born April 11, 1893, and Kenneth Paul, born January 6, 1902. In his political principles Mr. Ferrell is a Prohibitionist, and in his religious belief he is a Baptist. He is a member of the A. O. U. W. and of the B. A. Y. He has succeeded by hard work, and the assistance of his devoted wife and lives at his home which is located at No. 3 Rose street, respected by all who know him.

**Alfred Camp**, a native of Minnesota, was born in Freeborn county September 4, 1886, a son of Christopher and Katherine (Larson) Camp. Both parents were natives of Denmark, who came to America in 1880 and located at Albert Lea, Minn., where they remained until 1898. They then moved to Blooming

Prairie, Steele county, where the father followed his trade of a mason for a few years, and from there moved to Summit township, where he is now located, and is doing general farming. Alfred received his education at the public schools of Blooming Prairie. After leaving school Alfred came to Owatonna and learned the butter making trade, which he has followed ever since. On May 1, 1909, he accepted a position with the Farmers' Gilt Edge Creamery Association, and has full charge of their business. Mr. Camp is a member of the Lutheran Church, and his political affiliations are with the Republican party. He is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. Though still a young man, he holds a responsible position and enjoys the confidence of his employers and the respect and esteem of all who know him.

**Leonard L. Bennett**, president since its organization of the establishment now known as the National Farmers' Bank, is one of the honored figures of Owatonna life. Few men can lay down a chosen profession in the prime of manhood and attain success in a line of activity entirely different, but Dr. Bennett, after attaining an enviable position for himself as a practitioner of medicine, turned from his profession and at the age of thirty-five took up the business of banking, becoming a leader in the financial circles of this part of the state. Dr. Bennett was born in Plainfield, Will county, Illinois, October 7, 1839, son of Robert Bennett and Sally Loomis Kent, his wife, the former being descended from a genuine old Connecticut "Yankee" family, while the latter, a New Yorker by birth, was of more immediate English descent. Their son, the subject of this sketch, was educated in the common schools in the neighborhood of the old Bennett homestead in Lake county, Illinois. In 1857 he graduated from the academic course in the Wauconda Academy, at Wauconda, Ill., and in 1862 he was graduated with honors from the Rush Medical college, of Chicago. The following year he came to Owatonna, and practiced medicine successfully from 1864 to 1874, attaining a substantial position in his profession. It was during that period that Dr. Bennett acquired that intimate knowledge of farm life and the character of the farmers in Steele county, that has made his bank the financial center of this agricultural region. In 1873, Dr. Bennett established the Farmers' National Bank, of Owatonna, and became its president, remaining in that position to the present day, the institution having become the leading financial enterprise in Steele county. One year after opening the bank, Dr. Bennett, gave up the medical profession. During all the years that have passed since then, the people of Steele county, in loving recognition of his services as a practitioner, have retained the title of "Doctor," in

addressing him. While devoting to his business much more time than the average man works, Dr. Bennett has still found time for public service, and his contributions to the progress of the community by four years work as county coroner, and many years as a member of the board of county commissioners and the city school board will be long remembered. His fraternal association has been with the A. F. & A. M. and his church affiliations are with the local body of Universalists, of the founders of which, he and his wife are the only ones living. Dr. Bennett was married May 25, 1863, to Arabella Fidelia Brown, and to this union have been born two sons, Carl Kent Bennett and Guy Brown Bennett, both now holding official positions in the National Farmers' Bank, of Owatonna.

**Guy B. Bennett**, cashier of the National Farmers' Bank, of Owatonna, is actively identifying himself with the financial progress and stability of Steele county, and is regarded as one of the rising young men of the city of Owatonna. He was born in Owatonna, September 27, 1871, a son of Leonard Loomis and Arabella Fidelia Bennet, long-time residents of this vicinity. The subject of this sketch attended the public schools and graduated from the Owatonna high school in 1889. The following fall he entered the academic department of Harvard University, and in 1893 received his degree from that institution. Returning to Owatonna he entered what had at that time just become the National Farmers' Bank, as bookkeeper. Gradually mastering the details of the business he was promoted to bookkeeper, paying teller, and assistant cashier successively, until August, 1905, when he assumed his present position in which he has since served with credit and ability. In addition to his banking interests, he has found time to serve the city as member of the school board. For three years he was a bugler in Company E, Third Regiment, Minnesota National Guard. For ten years he has been treasurer of the Universalist Church. Mr. Bennett was married, June 30, 1900, to Winifred Fay Niles, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John N. Niles, of Owatonna, and to this union one son has been born, Leonard N., July 22, 1909.

**Carl K. Bennett**, vice president of the National Farmers' Bank, of Owatonna, had in charge the planning and erecting of the solidly beautiful building which houses the institution of which he is an officer. The search for a suitable architect was his, as was also indeed, the inception of the idea that a building may be so designed as to express its purpose. Mr. Bennett was born in Owatonna, October 6, 1868, a son of Leonard Loomis and Arabella (Fidelia) Bennett, both descended from old New England families. He attended the public schools and in 1886 graduated from Pillsbury Academy. He then entered Harvard



University and graduated with a special degree in 1890. Since then he has taken his place in the business and social life of Owatonna. In the summer of 1890 he entered the then Farmers' National Bank as bookkeeper. In December, 1890, he became assistant cashier, in August, 1891, cashier, and in August, 1905, vice president, which position he still holds. Mr. Bennett is president of the Perfection Churn Company, president of the Sperry Manufacturing Company, and one of the owners of the Owatonna Creamery Supply Company. For six years he was a member of the city council representing the first ward. He served on the library board ten years and a larger part of that time was secretary of that body. He is now president of the park commission. Being interested in preserving the records of the past as an earnest of the future, he has allied himself with the Minnesota chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. Mr. Bennett was married November 21, 1898, to Lydia Honoria Norwood, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Norwood, of Owatonna, and to this union have been born three children—Beatrice, Sylvia and Arabella. The family attends the First Baptist Church, of which Mr. Bennett was organist for many years.

**Lewis Lorenzo Wheelock**, jurist, soldier and orator, now deceased, exerted on city, county and state, an influence that will be long remembered. A memorial of his life has said, "Judge Wheelock was not only a learned and well-equipped jurist, but a thoughtful student of public affairs. Honored and trusted by all who knew him, faithful to every cause which he espoused, considerate, brave and firm, he earned and maintained a high place in the affectionate regard of his fellows. A man of wit, he was never caustic, except in defense of right. His conversation was illumined with humor that was always kindly, wisdom that was always impressive and permeated with a deep underlying principle of religious feeling. He was conservative in judgment and charitable in thought as well as in deed. A man among men, he had a heart tender as a child's and pitiful as a woman's." Lewis Lorenzo Wheelock was born in Mannsville, Jefferson county, New York, November 12, 1839, son of Lewis Lorenzo and Mary (Howe) Wheelock. Left an orphan at the age of ten years, he secured an education through his own exertions, and at the age of twenty started teaching in Macedon Academy, Wayne county, New York, in which capacity he was serving at the outbreak of the Civil War. He enlisted as a private in the 160th New York Volunteer Infantry, August 13, 1862; was promoted to first lieutenant of Company C, September 1, 1862; and promoted to captain of the same company, June 9, 1865. He assisted in the fitting out of the Banks Expedi-



tion to the Department of the Gulf, and with his regiment went to New Orleans in December, 1862. He served in independent command under Gen. Godfrey Weitzel, being engaged in numerous battles and skirmishes, including the destruction of the Confederate gunboat "Cotton," the reducing of Camp Bisland, the siege and capture of Port Hudson, the expedition to Sabine Pass, Texas, and the battles of Bank's Red River campaign. He was then ordered north with his company and participated in the battle of Deep Bottom, Virginia, July, 1864, under Hancock. He was then ordered to the Shenandoah valley under Sheridan. He participated in the battle of Opequan, Va., September 19, 1864. In this engagement he was wounded in the right arm, and sent to the rear, being unable to join his regiment until after the battle of Cedar Creek. He marched in the Grand Review at Washington, and was discharged with his regiment November 1, 1865. After his discharge he assisted in the reconstruction by serving in the Freedmen's Bureau in Washington. After this he chose the law as a profession. His first training was received in the office of his colonel, Judge Charles C. Dwight, Auburn, N. Y., after which he entered the Albany (N. Y.) law school, graduating in 1869. In the meantime he established a residence in Owatonna, where he subsequently had a highly honorable career, serving as city attorney, judge of probate and state senator. The law firm of Wheelock and Sperry, with Hon. W. A. Sperry as a partner, was formed in 1879, and continued until the death of Mr. Wheelock. Judge Wheelock was a zealous member of the G. A. R., and served two terms as department commander for the state of Minnesota. He was selected by the Department Encampment of Minnesota as one of the committee to frame the bill for the establishment of the Soldiers' Home and Soldiers' Relief Fund. May 5, 1886, he was elected a companion of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, through the Commandery of Minnesota, and was a member of the council from May 8, 1906, to May 14, 1907. The committee of this commandery at the time of his death passed the following resolutions following a recital of the biographical facts of his career: "Judge Wheelock was greatly beloved by his comrades throughout the state; his cheery disposition, witty sayings and good judgment making him a great favorite. As a citizen Companion Wheelock was interested and active in everything that promoted the public welfare; he served as president of the board of education, and at the time of his death was president of the Owatonna Free Public Library board, as well as a director of the First National Bank. At one time he was postmaster. His large law business and public duties did not exhaust his energies. He was active in Freemasonry and was

the prelate of the Commandery of Knights Templar at the time of his death. In the realm of things spiritual, Companion Wheelock was a sincere and devout believer. He belonged to the Congregational Church, but his breadth of view embraced all followers of the Christian religion. For more than forty years he was superintendent of the Sunday school, and with great ability occupied the pulpit when occasion required. And many were the souls he inspired to higher ideals in things spiritual." Lewis L. Wheelock was married in 1871 to Adeline Burch, of Hillsdale, Mich., who died February 24, 1901. To this union seven children were born. Of these four are living. Arthur B. resides in Seattle, Wash.; Dwight is in Oro Fino, Idaho; Paul is a student at Ann Arbor, Mich.; and Mrs. Paul H. Evans lives in Owatonna. Mr. Wheelock was again married in April, 1902, to Mrs. Miranda A. Inglis, who resides at the family residence in Owatonna.

**C. K. Anderson**, of the Guarantee Concrete and Construction Company, has taken an active part in the upbuilding of Owatonna, and the many beautiful buildings in whose construction he has had a part, will long stand as a monument to his work. He was born in Owatonna, February 5, 1868, son of Silas and Adeline Amanda (Davenport) Anderson, long-time residents of Owatonna. The subject of this sketch received his early education in the graded and high schools of Owatonna, and after leaving school learned the bricklayers' trade with the idea of following in his father's footsteps as a general contractor. After thoroughly mastering this trade, he became a member of the firm of Hammel Brothers & Anderson. In 1907, Mr. Anderson entered into partnership with R. T. Woodward under the firm name of the Guarantee Concrete and Construction Company, doing all kinds of cement contracting, etc. The firm does a large business, and its work is its best recommendation. Mr. Anderson is a Democrat in politics, and his services for six years as alderman from the second ward have given general satisfaction. Being of a fraternal nature, he has interested himself in the K. of P., the M. W. A., and the F. O. E. He was married in 1893, at Los Angeles, Cal., to Effie Runkle, whose parents are residents of California. This union has been blessed with one son, Harold W. The family faith is that of the Universalist Church, and the residence is a comfortable home at 605 East Vine street. Silas Anderson, contractor and builder, was born in Pembroke county, New York, August 5, 1832. His wife, Adeline, was born in Schoharie county, New York. They were married December 21, 1857. In 1865 he enlisted in Company F, First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and saw service in the southern states. He came to Minnesota with his wife in the

early sixties and established a business at Owatonna, successfully continuing same until his death, July 9, 1905. His wife died June 21, 1910. Their children were: Willard Edward, deceased; Cyrus K.; Myrtie, now Mrs. George Lull, of Rochester; Charles, deceased; Nellie, deceased.

**Charles S. Crandall.** Few men have contributed so greatly to the prosperity of southern Minnesota as Charles Scheretz Crandall, the subject of this sketch. He was born in Erie county, Ohio, January 18, 1840, and came to Steele county in 1857. During the more than fifty years that he has resided here, he has taken an active part in county and state affairs, and for decades his council and advice have been sought by men of many walks in life. As journalist, law-maker, committeeman, merchant, county officer and postmaster his conduct has fulfilled a high ideal of manhood, and his influence has been of great importance. In 1862, failing health and chronic asthma forced his retirement from farm life, and in that year he came to Owatonna and became a deputy in the offices of the register of deeds and the county auditor. Subsequently he was appointed register of deeds upon the resignation of that official. He held the office fourteen months under this appointment, and was after that elected to the office for two terms. He served with distinction in the house of representatives of the state legislature one term, and in the state senate two terms. He was eight years postmaster of Owatonna, and was eight years editor of the "Owatonna Journal." Having been instrumental in securing the location of the state public school at Owatonna, he was appointed by the governor a member of the board of control of that institution, and held the office twelve years, giving good service. He was also one of the board of managers of the State Reformatory at St. Cloud, Minn., for several years. He was removed from these boards upon the election of a Democratic governor, and his loss was keenly felt by those who had the interests of the institutions at heart. In addition to his other work, Mr. Crandall was one of the building committee of the Baptist Church building, though not a member of that organization. He was also one of the committee which constructed the Metropolitan opera house, to which he, as well as many other citizens, contributed. Mr. Crandall was married in February, 1864, to Marietta E. Allen, a widow. To this union were born two children—Mary Elizabeth, February 22, 1865, and Georgiana Caroline, June 23, 1872. Marietta Crandall died in September, 1892, and Mr. Crandall married Irene A. Luers, a widow, in October, 1893. Charles Chapin Crandall, father of Charles S. Crandall, was born at Canadagua, Ontario county, New York, and died in Lorain county, Ohio, in 1850. The

mother, Caroline Scheretz, was born in Erie county, Ohio, and died in Steele county, Minnesota. Her family was of German origin. Her parents came from Pennsylvania to Ohio, which was then a wilderness, in 1809, and settled in the Connecticut Western Reserve.

**Herbert F. Luers**, the energetic editor of the "Owatonna Journal-Chronicle," has taken a vital and active interest in the welfare of the city and county, and his editorial boostings of all things concerning this locality, have resulted in increased impetus in the progressiveness of Owatonna and Steele county. He was born in Owatonna, August 9, 1875, son of Herman Henry Luers and Irena A. Snedigar, his wife. Herbert F. started out in life with the intention of becoming a musician. At the age of ten years he started studying the piano and after eight years took up voice culture also. After attending the public schools of Owatonna, he graduated from Pillsbury Academy in 1893, and from the vocal music department of the same school two years later. He attended the University of Minnesota, 1893-94, in the academic department. He studied vocal music and the organ in New York City in 1896, and the year previous to that had taken a special course in the Curtiss Business College at St. Paul. After reaching maturity, Mr. Luers' tastes and energies demanded an occupation more connected with the world's work than the musical profession, and he therefore started on his journalistic career in 1896, as a reporter for the "Owatonna Journal." In 1897 he founded the "Owatonna Chronicle" with E. K. Whiting. The story of the consolidation of these papers is found in the newspaper chapter in this work. Mr. Luers is now president of the "Journal-Chronicle" Company, and editor of the "Journal-Chronicle," daily and weekly. He is also secretary of the Steele County Good Roads Association. During the Spanish-American War, Mr. Luers was elected captain of a company of 140 men, raised for the Fifteenth Minnesota Regiment, but this company was not accepted by the governor. The subject of this sketch enlisted in Company G, Fourth Infantry Reserve (later Company I, Second Infantry), Minnesota National Guard, in March, 1900. He was promoted through the grades of corporal, first sergeant, and second lieutenant, and was commissioned captain of the company, in April, 1904. In March, 1910, he received a medal for ten years' faithful service, and in July, 1910, he resigned the captaincy on account of the pressure of private business. While at college, Mr. Luers joined the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity. He was married March 5, 1901, to Anne Stuart Richardson, of Princeton, Ill., and to this union have been born two children—Charles Herman Richardson, aged 8, and Irene Victoria, aged 7. Mrs. Luers



attended the University of Michigan, and is an accomplished vocalist, having studied with leading teachers in New York and elsewhere. Herman Henry Luers, father of Herbert F. Luers, was born in Germany and was a prominent druggist in Owatonna from 1874 until 1887, the latter year being the date of his death. His wife, now Mrs. Charles S. Crandall, has taken an active part in club work, and is an officer of the State Federation of Women's Clubs.

**Samuel A. Rask**, an energetic and hustling business man of Blooming Prairie, Minn., was born near Caledonia, Houston county, Minnesota. After receiving a common school education in the district schools of his county, he took and completed a course in the high school of La Crosse, Wis., subsequently completing a course in English literature at the University of Chicago. Leaving school in 1894, he held a position with the Security Savings and the Exchange State Bank, of La Crosse, Wis., until 1897, when he removed to the Twin Cities and engaged in the insurance business till the outbreak of the Spanish-American War in 1898. He was then a member of Company F, of the First Minnesota National Guard, which became Company F, of the Thirteenth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry after the company entered active service. Mr. Rask went to the front with his regiment as a corporal, but shortly afterwards was taken sick and remained in the hospital at Camp Merritt, in San Francisco, Cal., until 1899, when he returned home, arriving but a few months before his company. Coming to Blooming Prairie, he was connected with the State Bank of Blooming Prairie as bookkeeper until 1901, when he was elected cashier, and five years later when the bank was reorganized as the First National Bank of Blooming Prairie, he was retained in his present position as cashier and became a stockholder and director. He is also a director in the Citizens' National Bank of Austin, Minn., and is serving as secretary and treasurer of the Steele County Telephone Company, of Blooming Prairie. In political convictions he is a stanch Republican, and takes an active interest in local affairs. His fraternal affiliations are with the Masonic Order, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Modern Woodmen of America, and Sons of Norway. June 23, 1902, he was united in matrimony with Harriet O. Miller, of La Crosse, Wis. They have one child, a daughter, Catherine Louise. Mr. and Mrs. Rask have a comfortable home located at the corner of Hazel and Second streets. Peter O. and Louise (Sundt) Rask, parents of our subject, emigrated from Norway to America in 1856, first locating in Winneshick county, Iowa, and, in 1858, settled in Wilmington township, Houston county, Minnesota, where the father was engaged in farming until the spring of 1886, when they removed to La Crosse, Wis.,



where they now live retired. Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Miller, parents of Mrs. Samuel Rask, were among the early pioneers of La Crosse, Wis. The father died January 3, 1908, and since then the mother has resided with her daughter and son-in-law at Blooming Prairie.

**Merton J. Parcher**, deputy county auditor of Steele county is a native son of Minnesota, he was born in Owatonna on March 17, 1874, son of Johnson and Sarah (Grandprey) Parcher. Merton received his early education at the public schools of Owatonna, then going to Big Stone City, S. D., where he finished his schooling. He then learned the meatcutters' trade which he followed for several years at Big Stone City, Ortonville and St. Paul Park, then he returned to Owatonna in the year 1889, and followed his trade until 1900, when he became a buyer, on the road of hides, wool and furs for Willet & Kilty for four years, and then with D. Bergman & Co., in the same line for four years. He then accepted a position with the Albert Lea Hide and Fur Company, but after working for them for six months again entered the employ of Willet & Kilty and continued with them until February 1, 1909. On January 1, 1910, he was appointed deputy county auditor under A. J. Basshard, and is now holding that position. He was married at Owatonna on January 15, 1901, to Anna Brandick, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Brandick. Two children have blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Parcher—Irene and Dorothy, both living at home. In his religious faith Mr. Parcher is a Roman Catholic and in his political views he is a staunch Republican, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and has been secretary of his lodge for the past four years, he is also a member of the F. A. E., the K. of P., and the U. C. T., and of the Consolidated Casualty Company, of Detroit, Mich. He has won his success by his own efforts, and has the esteem and respect of all who know him. His home is on the corner of University and Grove streets in the city of Owatonna.

**William H. Montgomery** is of that race of pioneers, who, when Minnesota was still in the possession of the Indians, came to this state, and, undaunted by hardships and discouragements, persevered in their endeavors until the present prosperous conditions developed from a pioneer frontier. He was born in Madrid, St. Lawrence county, New York, July 20, 1834, and came to Minnesota in the fall of 1850, locating in Hastings, when the country was still occupied by the Indians. He was one of the early jurors of Dakota county, and in other ways participated in public life. In 1865 he came to Steele county, and until 1872 engaged in farming, afterward conducting a hardware business in Owatonna for eight years. Then he established the retail furniture store, now conducted by Boice & Hanna. With W. S.

Boice as partner, he remained in this business and then sold out to Milan Hastings, his retirement being necessitated by his wife's illness. Mr. Montgomery is a staunch Republican and a member of the Congregational Church. He was married May 18, 1860, in Jefferson county, N. Y., to Diana Boice, who after a life of Christian piety and faithful devotion, died October 17, 1890. To this union were born five children—Bion, Ella, Lester, and another son, not named, died in infancy. Nora, now of Los Angeles, married George Brown, a banker. Mr. and Mrs. Brown have two children, Stanley H. and Wilbur W., the joy and pride of their grandfather's heart. John and Margaret (Raney) Montgomery, parents of William H. Montgomery, were natives of Ireland, but of Scottish descent. They came to America in 1818, located in New York state, and engaged in farming and the general mercantile business. The father died in New York state in 1840 and the mother came to Owatonna where she died in 1877.

**John N. Schoen**, a well patronized jeweler of Owatonna, was born there December 6, 1878. He is the son of Charles and Elizabeth (Meyer) Schoen, natives of Germany. They emigrated from Germany as children, the mother in 1842, the father in 1846. They were married at Prescott, Wis., in 1861. The father first located in New York City, from where he moved to Milwaukee, Wis., later removing to Madison, Wis., where he engaged in the manufacture of wagons. In 1865 he came to Owatonna and engaged in the manufacture of wagons and carriages, conducting a prosperous and steadily increasing business until 1900, when he retired from active life. He passed away October 17, 1902. The mother survived him and is still living at Owatonna. John N. received his education in the public and high schools of Owatonna, graduating from the latter in 1896. After leaving school, he took up the jewelry trade with Mr. Louis Watowa, remaining with him until 1905, learning every detail of the business. At this time he formed a co-partnership with Mr. L. J. Mosher; together they purchased the jewelry business of Julius Young. They conducted this business for three years after which, in 1908, Mr. Schoen sold his interest to Mr. Mosher, and formed a co-partnership with John Jurgensen. They together purchased the jewelry business of his old employer, Mr. Louis Watowa, located on West Park street. The company carries everything found in an up-to-date jewelry store, making a specialty of all kinds of repairing. Mr. Schoen was married August 6, 1907, at Madison, Wis., to Miss Christine, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bollenbeck. Their union is blessed with one daughter, Esther C., born June 27, 1908. Mr. and Mrs. Schoen are domiciled in a pleasant residence at 819 South Cedar





M. D. WHITMAN

street. Mr. Schoen is a Democrat in politics. In religious faith he is a Roman Catholic. He is identified with a number of fraternal organizations, viz.: the K. of P., M. W. A., and Commercial Club. Mr. Schoen is a wide-awake, enterprising young business man, well thought of by his large circle of friends and acquaintances.

**Adolph Uber** is a wide-awake business man of Owatonna, Minn., who has achieved his success by persevering effort in the line of a settled purpose. He is of German parentage and was born in Washington county, Wisconsin, July 27, 1871. He is a son of Charles Uber who emigrated from the fatherland in 1854, and settled in Washington county, where the father, a tanner by trade, followed that occupation all his life, his decease occurring in 1894, and where the mother still resides. Adolph acquired a good English education in the public schools of his native place and after leaving school learned the tanner's trade and worked at it with his brother under the firm name of Uber Brothers. He followed his trade also in Chicago, in New York and at Philadelphia, and in 1893 returned to Washington county and joined his brother in business. A year later, in 1894, he sold his interest to his brother and took up his residence at Owatonna and established the business to which he has continuously devoted his attention ever since, making a specialty of tanning sheep pelts and shipping the bulk of his products to eastern markets. In politics he is a Republican. He is identified with the Modern Woodmen and in his religious convictions holds to the faith of the Lutheran Church. On January 25, 1892, Mr. Uber married Miss Kate Komp, whose parents lived in Washington county, where the father followed his trade as a harness maker, and where he died. The mother still lives there. Mr. and Mrs. Uber have two children, named respectively, Harley and Cordelia.

**M. D. Whitman**, an old and respected pioneer of Steele county, was born in Grafton county, New Hampshire, October 8, 1839. After receiving a limited common school education, he engaged in farming until the call to arms in 1862, when he entered the service of his country with Company H, of the Twelfth Vermont Infantry, enlisting at Bradford. His first assignment was on picket duty about the national capital. Later he was transferred to the First Army Corps, in which he served until he was mustered out with his company at Brattleborough, Vt., at the close of the war. Returning home, he remained there until 1867 when he migrated west to Winnebago county, Illinois, and carried on farming eight months, subsequently removing to Winnebago county, Wisconsin, and continuing to make his living as a farmer for a year and a half. He then came to



Meriden township, Steele county, a year later moving into Somerset township and purchased a quarter section of school land, his present farm. In spite of his seventy-one years, he takes an active interest in its operation, his youngest son, Lynn, assisting him. All modern buildings and machinery of the latest types are found on this farm, which has greatly aided in making it one of the model farms of the county. It is located six miles from Owatonna. A beautiful modern home contributes to the comfort of the occupants. Shorthorn cattle, Poland China and Berkshire hogs are raised. Mr. Whitman was one of the main promoters of the Steele Center creamery, which is situated almost at his door, and has held every office in the gift of the creamery association. In politics, he is an adherent of the Republican party, and has always taken an active part in the affairs of the community, having filled the office of postmaster at Steele Center for twenty-five years, and also that of chairman of the township supervisors. He is now acting as treasurer of his school board. The Owatonna post of the Grand Army of the Republic numbers him among its active members. He was married in 1867, to Anna (Bryant), daughter of Augustus and Angeline (Sage) Bryant. Mr. and Mrs. Whitman have seven children—Clarence, formerly a minister of the Baptist Church, located near Boston, but now a missionary to Africa; George, an electrical engineer of Minneapolis; Frank, manager of a creamery at Avon, Minn.; Arthur, located at Good Thunder, Minn.; Hattie, wife of Geary Felton, a farmer of Merton township; Charles, engaged in farming near Lyman, Lincoln county, Colorado; and Lynn, who assists his father in the working of the old home farm. The family are prominent in the Baptist Church. The parents of our subject were natives of New Hampshire where the father followed farming up to the time of his death. The mother also died in the east.

**Galen A. Merrill**, the efficient superintendent of state public school for Dependent and Neglected Children, was born in Kalamazoo county, Michigan, December 28, 1859, a son of George and Sabra (Wallace) Merrill. His mother was a native of New York and his father of Connecticut. They went to Ohio at an early day and moved from there to Michigan, where the remainder of their life was passed. The father died in the year 1867 and the mother in 1889. Galen A. was brought up on a farm and received his early education in the district schools of Michigan and in the high school at Ludington, Mich. He first took up teaching in 1879 and also commenced the study of medicine at the State University, but failed to complete the course, dropping it to accept the position of assistant superintendent of the State Public School for Dependent Children, a position which

he held from 1882 to 1884, when he was appointed state agent of the same school, his duties being to visit the children placed out in homes from that institution. He held this position for two years and in 1886 received a call as superintendent of the new institution of the same kind established by the state of Minnesota at Owatonna, a position which he has held since his appointment in that year. In this capacity for nearly a quarter of a century he has more than demonstrated his fitness. He combines those qualities of gentleness, firmness and justness so necessary in dealing with children, and scores of fatherless children who have now attained positions of responsibility and respectability in various communities regard him as a foster father and acknowledge their indebtedness to him for the impress of strong and honest humanity that his life has left upon their characters. Mr. Merrill is an active worker in the Methodist Episcopal Church and in 1896 was one of the lay representatives to the general conference of that church held at Cleveland, Ohio. Having attained prominence in his chosen line of work, he is an honored member of the National Association of Charities and Corrections, and as such was a delegate to the conference on the care of dependent children, held at the White House in 1909 at the call of President Theodore Roosevelt. Mr. Merrill's interests, however, have not been confined to his own profession, and at various times he has done valued service on the school and library boards of the city of Owatonna. He was married at Augusta, Mich., September 26, 1886, to Estella Ogden, and to this union two children have been born: Maude, now a student at Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio, and Paul O., a student at Pillsbury Academy, Owatonna.

**L. John Mosher**, one of our most highly respected business men, was born at Owatonna, Minn., on February 12, 1874, his parents being Alonzo John and Mary (Hogan) Mosher, the former a native of New York state and the latter of Wisconsin. They came to Owatonna in 1865 and the father engaged at his trade of carriage finisher, which vocation he has followed ever since. The subject of our sketch received his education at the public schools at Owatonna and his first start in business life was that of railroad despatching agent. This he followed until 1903, when he started in the jewelry business, forming a co-partnership with Mr. J. N. Schoen. Two years and a half later he purchased the interest of Mr. Schoen and from that time he has been sole owner and proprietor. He carries a very heavy up-to-date stock, makes a specialty of high grade cutglass and china, and does an extensive repairing business. The fact that he enjoys a very large and steadily increasing trade goes to prove that his square dealing and uncompromising honesty has won

for him the enviable position which he now holds in this city. Mr. Mosher was married to Julia E. Hughes at Dubuque, Ia., on May 23, 1907. One son has thus far blessed their union, Donald Byron, who was born September 31, 1908. Mr. Mosher is an independent voter and worships at the Roman Catholic Church, and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and Knights of Columbus. He has proved himself, by the interest he has taken in the betterment of this community, to be a good citizen, and is held in high esteem by all that know him. His store is located on West Main street.

**Charles W. Vinton**, an enterprising business man of Owatonna, who resides at 134 East School street, is a native son of Minnesota. He was born in Summit township, Steele county, July 4, 1862, to Charles E. and Birtena (Hulburt) Vinton, who came to Minnesota in the early fifties and located in Steele county on 160 acres of land in Summit township, where the father was engaged in general farming until 1878. He then removed to the village of Geneva, Freeborn county, where they are still located. The subject of this sketch acquired his education in the district schools of Summit township and in the public schools at Geneva. He then engaged in various labors, such as farming, trucking and teaming, until 1899, when he opened a store and creamery at River Point, Steele county, which business he successfully conducted until December, 1908. At this time he sold his business and came to Owatonna, where he entered into a co-partnership with Mr. William Cartin, which relation was continued until December, 1909, at which time Mr. Cartin sold to Mr. Vinton's nephew, Mr. George Burke. The business is continued under the name of Vinton & Burke. They are doing an extensive business in grain, flour and feed. Mr. Vinton was married March 17, 1887, at Albert Lea, Freeborn county, Minnesota, to Julia Scheveisco. This union is blessed with three children, viz.: Earl, born January 13, 1889, who is engaged as a teacher of manual training at Lisle, Minn.; Austin, born September 30, 1891, works with his father; Blanche, born July 15, 1894, lives at home. Mr. Vinton is not affiliated with any political party, but votes for the best candidate, regardless of party principles. He is a good citizen and true friend. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and the A. O. A.

**N. P. Peterson**, a prosperous contractor and builder of Owatonna, Minn., has attained his success by persistent and persevering hard work. He was born in Denmark, February 26, 1858, and is a son of Peter and Christina (Nelson) Peterson. His parents came from Denmark, their native country, in 1875, with their family, and settled on a one hundred acre farm in Somerset township, Steele county, Minnesota. Here they made

a home and reared their family, and the father carried on general farming until his decease in 1884. The mother survived till the spring of 1895. Our subject grew up in Denmark as a farmer boy and there attended the public schools and came to this country with his father and mother. At the age of twenty-two, in 1880, he took up the carpenter's trade and followed it in St. Paul and Minneapolis some four years. Returning to his home, in 1884, he established himself in business at Owatonna as a builder and contractor and so continued until recent years, during which he has worked more especially as a cement contractor, building sidewalks and doing other work in that line, for the most part in the city of Owatonna. Mr. Peterson is known as a straightforward, upright, reliable man in his line of work and by his honorable dealing has gained the confidence of all who know him. He has given himself closely to his business and has had little leisure for outside affairs. In his religious belief he adheres loyally to the tenets of the Baptist denomination. In political sentiment he is a Republican. On December 14, 1887, Mr. Peterson married Miss Hannah, daughter of Lars and Marie (Jensen) Peterson, who came from Denmark in 1883 and settled on a farm in Blooming Prairie township, Steele county. The father carried on farming there till 1901, when he sold the home farm and moved with his family to Owatonna. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have four children, of whom Mae C., the oldest, is a student at Carleton College; Louis F. is a student at Pillsbury Academy, and N. Paul and Dorothy Harriet are home with their parents.

**Theodore Chambers**, a substantial and respected resident of Owatonna and honored veteran of the Civil War, was born in Warrenville, Du Page county, Illinois, October 29, 1844, son of Joseph and Charlotte (Bargy) Chambers. He attended the common schools and was a lad of but sixteen years of age when the news of the attack of Ft. Sumter was flashed through the North. He impatiently waited a year and in June, 1862, at the age of seventeen, enlisted in Company F, 95th Illinois Volunteer Infantry, serving through the war and being mustered out at Springfield, Ill., August 17, 1865. At the close of the war he came to Minnesota and reached Owatonna September 6, 1865. After doing various work a short time he wooed and won as a wife Emily Arnold, whom he married September 14, 1866, at Faribault. Six months later he rented a farm in Owatonna township and engaged successfully in farming two years. He then purchased a farm of eighty acres in Meriden township, where he remained six years. He next moved to Berlin township, where he farmed twenty-six years. In 1905 he moved to Owatonna and took up his residence at 1005 South Cedar street. For a short time he



was engaged in the draying and the coal and wood business in Owatonna. Mr. Chambers has served with distinction as chairman of the county board of supervisors several terms, and when working on his farm he was several times chosen chairman of his township. Mr. Chambers is a Republican in politics and affiliates with the G. A. R. Of his five children, Edward lives in Osage county, Kansas; James S. is a farmer in Lemond township; Marion is the wife of W. W. Day, Jr., an Owatonna coal dealer; Frank C. lives in Frankfort, S. D., and Grace is now Mrs. L. O. Holmes, of Owatonna. Joseph Chambers and Charlotte Bargo, his wife, were born in New York state and came to Illinois in the early forties. In 1863 they came to Owatonna and here remained. Joseph Chambers served eleven years as city treasurer and died in 1881. His wife died at Rochester in 1897. Benjamin L. and Celia Stokes Arnold, parents of Mrs. Theodore Chambers, were pioneer hotel keepers of Owatonna. The former was born in Toledo, Ohio, and the latter in England. They came to Owatonna in 1855 and located on a farm where the state school is now located. In 1857 they erected the Eureka House, located where the Security Bank now stands, and in 1866 they built the Arnold House, which is located on West Vine street. Mr. Arnold died in 1879 and his wife passed away one year earlier.

**John H. C. Schuldt**, known as one of Steele county's progressive farmers, was born on the farm he now owns, January 13, 1867. His education was received in the district schools, assisting his father most of the time while attending, and afterwards devoting his entire time to the work. Since his father's death,\* in 1900, he has had entire charge and has more than maintained the three hundred and twenty acre farm in the well kept condition his father left it. Two hundred and eighty acres are under cultivation, and by hard work and adherence to common sense principles of agriculture he has developed one of the most productive farms in the county. He has a large number of unusually fine Poland-China hogs. A beautiful and thoroughly up-to-date residence adds to the comfort of Mr. Schuldt and his family. In political convictions he is a Democrat and has served the community as pathmaster. March 14, 1895, he was united in marriage with Mathilda Abbe, daughter of William Abbe, now deceased. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Schuldt. Named in order of ages they are: Alfred, Martin, Edwin, Harold and Juanita. All live at home with the exception of Edwin and Harold, who died in infancy. Anton and Katharena (Jans) Schuldt, parents of our subject, were natives of Mecklenburg, Germany, where the father was employed in railroad work. At the age of thirty he emigrated to this country,





MR. AND MRS. JOHN H. SCHULT







ANTON AND KATHARENA SCHOLDT

located in Clayton county, Iowa, two years, and then removing to Steele county, Minnesota, with the aid of a yoke of oxen. Arriving here he homesteaded a claim in Lemond township, subsequently buying the place his son now operates and continued to follow farming until his death in 1900. His wife died six years previously. Ten children were born to them: Mary, Henry, William, Fred, who died some years ago, Wilhelmina, Anna, August, John H. C., Emma and Bertha. The family are all loyal Lutherans, the father and John H. C. holding many offices of trust in the church. The father was also prominent in local politics, first as a Republican and later as a Democrat, serving in many town offices.

**Nels C. Bailey**, one of Steele county's progressive and thrifty farmers, was born in this county, June 29, 1864. His education was acquired in the district schools, after which he assisted his father for a time on the home farm before striking out for himself. He is now the owner of a hundred and sixty acres of well improved land, on which he successfully follows general farming. Sixty acres are under the plow, almost every acre of which has been cleared by his own efforts. The buildings and machinery are well abreast of the times. Stock raising and dairying are important factors, high bred Durham and Holstein cattle yielding profitable returns. As to political convictions, the Republican party claims his allegiance. He has always taken an active part in local affairs and is at present serving as pathmaster and as a school officer. In 1889 he was united in marriage to a daughter of James McKibbin, a native of Ireland. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Bailey: Archie and Elmer, both living at home. Levi and Sana (Clark) Bailey, parents of our subject, migrated from Pennsylvania in the early days to Minnesota, settling in Somerset township, Steele county, where the father followed farming until quite recently. He is now living retired at Owatonna. Of his family of thirteen children eleven are living.

**John W. Engel**, who holds the position of head buttermaker of the Pratt Creamery, was born February 19, 1882, in Meriden township. After receiving his education he first took up farming for seven years in Meriden township. He then engaged in the carpentering business for one year and in 1904 entered the Meriden Creamery as helper, remaining there one year. Mr. Engel then became buttermaker at Deerfield Creamery, staying there four years. On April 1, 1910, he accepted the position as head buttermaker in the Pratt Creamery. Mr. Engel was given recently an eight-piece silver dinner service, awarded to him as first prize as the champion buttermaker of Minnesota for 1909. Average score for six months, 95.58. He took part in the Educational Butter



Scoring Contest and was awarded this prize by the dairy and food department of Minnesota. This is something of which Mr. Engel may well be very proud. He was married on April 16, 1907, to Anna Dusbabek. Two children have been born to them—Elden J., born December 23, 1907, and Emily K., born December 30, 1908. Mr. Engel politically affiliates with the Democratic party and attends the Catholic Church. He is a good citizen, much esteemed by all who know him. William Engel and Laura Engel, his wife, parents of John W. Engel, are of German parentage, Mr. Engel having been born in Germany. They located in Meriden township in 1880, where the father worked at his trade as blacksmith until 1886, when the family removed to Iowa, remaining there until 1894. They returned to Meriden township at this time, where Mr. Engel resumed his trade for a short period, then removing to Waldorf, Waseca county, where he has been employed at his trade ever since. Wenc Dusbabek and Amelia, his wife, parents of Mrs. John W. Engel, are natives of Bohemia and Germany, respectively. They located in Rice county, Shieldsville township, where they are now farming. Mrs. Engel was born there on August 15, 1883.

**Andrew Gregerson**, manager of the Ellendale Lumber Company, first saw the light of day in Racine, Wis., on January 9, 1869. He received his education in Freeborn county, after which he engaged in farming until 1901. Coming to Ellendale, Mr. Gregerson was employed by the Ellendale Lumber Company and in the spring of 1904 was made manager of the company, which position he now holds. On August 22, 1905, Mr. Gregerson was married at Owatonna to Agnes Schultz, of Owatonna. They have one child, Elsie I., born February 8, 1908. The subject of this sketch is an independent voter and a member of the Baptist Church and of the B. A. Y. He served two terms on the Ellendale city council. Mr. Gregerson has a pleasant home in Ellendale and is a splendid citizen, always looking out for the welfare of his home community. Jens Gregerson and Elsie Anderson, his wife, parents of Andrew Gregerson, were natives of Denmark, coming to America in 1867 and locating in Racine, Wis. In the spring of 1869 they moved to Freeborn county, where they carried on general farming. Jens Gregerson died on the home farm in 1903. The mother still lives in Freeborn county.

**Jacob Haberman**, a native of Bohemia, was born in that country on April 14, 1851, where he acquired his education. In 1871 Jacob came to the United States with his parents, locating in Blooming Prairie township in 1890, where he got eighty acres from his father and added 120 acres, all in Section 19. When bought this land was very wild and by the hardest toil Mr.

Haberman now has a splendid farm as the result of his efforts. He has a comfortable home and outbuildings and takes great pride in his Holstein cattle. Mr. Haberman keeps seven fine horses. The subject of this sketch was married on October 6, 1884, to Amelia Blazk. They have been blessed with six children — Amelia and Jacob, who died; Jacob, who is a farmer; Edward Joseph, Elsie and Freddie, all at home. Mr. Haberman is independent in his voting, serves as road overseer and owns shares in the Farmers' Elevator at Blooming Prairie, and is also a member of the Creamery Association. He acts as agent for the New York Mutual Life Insurance Company. Mr. Haberman is a self-made man and is a progressive citizen, esteemed by all who know him.

Wencł Haberman and Rosa, his wife, parents of Jacob Haberman, were natives of Bohemia, coming to America in 1871 and locating in Blooming Prairie township, where they engaged in farming the rest of their lives. Mr. Haberman died in 1893, his wife surviving him until 1903.

Frank Hanzlicek, a progressive farmer of Blooming Prairie township, is a native of Bohemia, where he was born September 1, 1848. He received his education in his native land and coming to America in 1881 located in Blooming Prairie township, where he bought 120 acres in Section 18. Mr. Hanzlicek has built good substantial buildings and improved his farm generally. He was married to Josie Matjeck in Bohemia in 1871. Their home has been blessed with nine children: Tillie, died when nineteen years of age; Frances, now Mrs. John Potz, of Blooming Prairie township; Amelia, now Mrs. Frank Krakora; Mary, now Mrs. Luther Wheeler, of Blooming Prairie village; Josie, now Mrs. Irvin Treat, of Blooming Prairie township; Frank, who lives in North Dakota; Joseph, still at home; Rosa, now Mrs. Edward Ruzek, of Summit township; Libbie, who stays at home. Mr. Hanzlicek is a member of the Democratic party and an attendant of the Catholic Church and a member of C. S. P. S. He has made his way by hard work and honest labor and is a man respected by the people of his section.

Anton J. Hondl, a successful farmer of Aurora township, is a native of Bohemia, having been born in that country on October 14, 1871. He attended the public schools of Bohemia and finished his education in the schools of Aurora township, where he came with his parents in 1880. Leaving school, Anton worked with his father on the farm for three years. In the year 1890 he decided to try farming in central California, where he remained three years. Returning to his old home in Aurora township, Mr. Hondl farmed for two years, finally purchasing the old home farm, which he has greatly improved. Very neat

and up-to-date buildings have been erected, including a very commodious barn, 36x72 feet. He has added more land during the past few years, until now he owns 360 fertile acres. Mr. Hondl and Lena Haubenschild were united in marriage on November 22, 1898, and enjoy a family of five children: Helen, Beneta, Clarence, Myrtle and Clemance. The subject of this sketch is independent in his voting, is a member of the Catholic Church and of the M. W. A. Lodge. Mr. Hondl is a stockholder in the Pratt Creamery and a very enterprising citizen, highly respected by all who know him. John Hondl and Anna Groh, his wife, parents of Anton J. Hondl, were natives of Bohemia, coming to America in 1880. They lived in Columbus, Wis., one winter, after which they removed to Aurora township, where Mr. Hondl purchased 200 acres of land in Section 19, later adding sixty acres. Here he conducted general farming until his death in 1907. His wife passed away in the year 1905.

**Joseph E. Jerele** is a native of Minnesota, where he was born in Aurora township, April 18, 1886. After receiving his early education at the district school he worked with his father on the home farm until the spring of 1910, when he rented the farm of eighty acres, all under cultivation, which is located in Section 33, Aurora township, and now carries on general diversified farming. Mr. Jerele is single, having his sister Lydia as his housekeeper. Politically he is a Democrat, a member of the Catholic Church, and a highly respected and promising young man.

**Louis F. Jerele** was born August 4, 1881, in Aurora township, where he attended the district schools during his boyhood. Following his school days he worked on his father's farm until 1903, when he engaged in farming for himself in Aurora township, where he has eighty acres of land in Section 33, which he has improved by careful cultivation. His farm buildings are up-to-date and he employs progressive methods in conducting the farm. Mr. Jerele makes a specialty of breeding Durham cattle and has some fine stock. On November 23, 1904, Agnes Falteysek became the wife of Louis F. Jerele. They have one child, Edward, born September 15, 1905. Mr. Jerele affiliates with the Democratic party and is a consistent member of the Catholic Church. He is a good and respected citizen, whom the community holds in esteem.

**John Jansa**, a prosperous farmer of Blooming Prairie township, was born on August 2, 1849, in the land of Bohemia. John gained his education in his native land, coming to America in 1874 and locating in Summit township in 1880. He then located in Blooming Prairie township, purchasing 160 acres of land in Section 32. Here Mr. Jansa has followed general diversified farming ever since, making splendid improvements upon his

land. On February 10, 1880, he was married to Albina Pirkl, daughter of Bernard Pirkl and Josephina Matejcek. They were married in Somerset township. Six children have blessed their home: John, born December 6, 1880, lives at home; Annie, born April 19, 1882, is now Mrs. Joseph Pirkl, a carpenter; Ludmelia, born July 8, 1885, died December 26, 1906; William, born June 1, 1889; Martha, born September 28, 1895, is at home; Helen, born September 1, 1899. Mr. Jansa politically is a Democrat and attends the Catholic Church, is a member of the Z. C. B. J. and D. P. J. He has served his township as road overseer for several years and owns shares in the Farmers' Elevator of Blooming Prairie township. Wenc Jansa and Terszi Bures, his wife, parents of John Jansa, were natives of Bohemia, where they both died. Bernard Pirkl and Josephina Matejcek, his wife, parents of the wife of John Jansa, were natives of Bohemia, coming to America in 1869. They located in Summit township, farming there until the time of death came to both of them.

**Joseph F. Kvasnicka**, a section foreman for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company, is a native of Bohemia, where he was born August 4, 1881. He received his education at the district schools of Aurora township, after which he worked with his father on the farm until he became of age. Joseph then took up railroad work for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company as section laborer, which work he followed until April, 1907, when the position of section foreman was offered him. His section covers six miles of line, three and one-half miles north from Pratt to two and one-half miles south from Pratt. In the year 1907 Mr. Kvasnicka was joined in marriage to Stella Hruska. One child has been born to them—Elizabeth, born June 22, 1908. The subject of this sketch is a Democrat in politics and attends the Roman Catholic church. He served his township as constable for two years. Mr. Kvasnicka owns his home at Pratt and is a citizen esteemed by the people of his community. Joseph Kvasnicka and Frances Herdana, his wife, parents of Joseph F. Kvasnicka, are natives of Bohemia. They came to the United States in 1881 and located in Aurora township, where they have conducted general farming ever since.

**Lars Larson**, a representative Steele county farmer, was born in Norway, July 29, 1855. At the age of eleven he emigrated to this country with his parents and gave what assistance he could to the building of the new home in Section 16, Lemond township, Steele county, Minnesota. The chances of acquiring an education were very meagre in those days and Mr. Larson, like most other pioneers, is self-educated. Shortly after attaining his majority he launched out for himself and now owns his



present farm of a hundred and sixty acres, which he has cleared and raised to a high state of productiveness entirely by his own efforts. Durham cattle and Poland-China swine are raised very successfully, contributing much to the profits of the farm. He spent five years in Owatonna while educating his family, working for a lumber company and hauling gravel, afterwards returning to the farm, where he now resides. A comfortable house at 144 Rose street, Owatonna, is his property also. In political convictions he is a Republican and has always borne his part in local affairs, having served as school supervisor for many years. In 1882 he was married to Julianna Hendrickson, by whom he has four children: Harry, living at home; Jesse, interested in the automobile business in South Dakota; and Raymond and Grace, who are both living at home. The family are loyal attendants of the Lutheran Church. Hans Larson, father of our subject, came over from Norway in 1866, locating in Lemond township, Steele county, where he was engaged in farming up to the time of his death.

**August Linse**, a prosperous farmer of Aurora township, Steele county, was born in Germany, September 7, 1851. After receiving his education in the Fatherland he emigrated to this country with his parents at the age of seventeen, locating with them on a farm in Dodge county, Wisconsin. In 1872 he removed to Steele county, doing farm work for a time in Somerset township and then in Owatonna, gradually acquiring the means to purchase the 160 acre farm he now owns in Aurora township, and on which he is still engaged in general diversified farming, making a specialty of the breeding and raising of high class Poland-China hogs and Shorthorn cattle. A nearby creamery affords a good market for his milk and helps to make the dairy end of his business a profitable one. In politics he follows the guidance of the Democratic party and has always been actively interested in local affairs, at present serving as a member of the school board and has had several years in office as supervisor. In 1875 he married Sophia Mueller, by whom he has five children: Mary, wife of August Longrehen, a farmer of Havana township; Minnie, married to Paul Howe, a railroad man of Minneapolis; Laura, wife of Ernest Hargefelt, a harnessmaker of Owatonna; William, a carpenter by trade, living at home; and August, who assists in running the home farm. Gottlieb and Minnie (Herford) Linse, parents of our subject, left Germany in 1868 for America, locating in Dodge county, Wisconsin, where the father followed general farming until his death in 1872. The mother later made her home with a daughter in Somerset township, and died there in 1893.



**Edward Linse**, a progressive farmer of Aurora township, was born on January 8, 1880, in Aurora township, where he received his education in the district schools. He then took up farming with his father until he became of age. Purchasing eighty acres from his father in Section 16 of his home township in 1901, and adding sixty more, making 140 fertile acres, Mr. Linse has greatly improved and developed his land. He has erected a new home and outbuildings in the past few years and carries on his splendid farm in a very up-to-date manner. On May 1, 1901, Mr. Linse was joined in marriage to Emma Ahlborn and their home has been made bright by four children: Ervin, Mamie, Elmer and Edwin. The subject is independent in his voting, a member of the Lutheran Church and a good citizen, respected by his community. Carl Linse and Augusta Lutz, his wife, parents of Edward Linse, are natives of Germany, coming to America at an early date. In 1874 they removed to Steele county and purchased 100 acres, which he sold later and again purchased 160 acres in Section 17, Aurora township, to which he added from time to time until he owned nearly 700 acres, all in Aurora township. He continued his general farming business until 1907, when he retired and removed to Owatonna, where he still lives.

**Ferdinand Liebreuz**, a very successful farmer of Merton township, is a native of Germany, having been born on May 28, 1872. Ferdinand attended the schools of his native land, coming to America when he was eighteen years old and locating in Rice county, where he worked out on different farms for two years. Removing to Steele county, he worked out until 1898, then purchasing 245 acres in Section 28, Merton township. Since that time Mr. Liebreuz has sold forty acres, leaving 205 acres, upon which he has done general farming up to the present time. He has made many splendid improvements. Within the past few years Mr. Liebreuz has planted an apple orchard and made a grove around his home. In 1897 he was joined in marriage to Hattie Schueler, to whom has been born three children: Annie, Alfreda and Myrtle. Mr. Liebreuz politically is a Republican and religiously is an attendant of the German Methodist Church. The subject is a self-made man, for whom his community has respect and admiration.

Frederick Liebreuz and Tina, his wife, parents of Ferdinand Liebreuz, were natives of Germany. The father died in 1905, the mother in 1907.

**John Lageson**, who conducts a general mercantile business at Ellendale, is a native of Houston county, Minnesota, where he was born March 1, 1875. He received his early education at the district schools. John then became interested in a general store

at Cooleysville. Upon leaving the store he attended the Valder Business College at Decorah, Ia. Returning from college, he again started in business, remaining until 1901. At this time Mr. Lageson formed the Ellendale Mercantile Company, of which he is general manager. On September 30, 1899, the subject of this sketch was married to Isabella Torgerson. Four children have been given Mr. and Mrs. Lageson: Edgar, Julian, Arnold and Melvin. Mr. Lageson is a Republican politically and a member of the Lutheran Church. He has served as alderman for three years, is a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator of Ellendale and is interested in the Ellendale Rural Telephone Company. Mr. Lageson is a self-made man and a citizen much respected in his community.

Elling Lageson and Martha Bakke, his wife, parents of John Lageson, were natives of Norway. They emigrated to America at an early date, locating in Wisconsin in 1851. Elling Lageson removed to Houston county, Minnesota, where he carried on a farm until 1876. Coming to Berlin township, Steele county, he conducted a farming business until compelled because of old age to retire from active life. Mr. Lageson died in December, 1906. Mrs. Lageson still lives on the old home farm.

**Louis Monson**, a sturdy old pioneer of Steele county, Minnesota, is a native of Lerdoll, Bergen Stift, Norway, being born in 1845. His boyhood was passed on his father's farm, having the usual experience of a Norwegian farmer boy and acquiring his education in the public schools. Leaving school at the age of eighteen, he spent a couple of years at various kinds of work in Christiania, and then emigrated to America, making the voyage on the "Quebec," one of the fast sailing ships of that period. Arriving in this country, he located near Decorah, Illinois, where he spent a summer working on a farm. The following year, 1865, he removed to Steele county, and after several years of hard farm work amassed the means necessary for the purchase of his present well improved farm of eighty acres. In politics he inclines toward the doctrines of the Democratic party, but always casts his ballot for what he believes the best interests of the community. He was married, in 1875, to Ida Anderson, by whom he had eleven children, six of whom are living: Ole A., a farmer of Summit township; Martha, wife of William Weinknecht; Dora, married to Gunar Fenkedall, a carpenter; Martin, who resides at home; Richard, of Summit township, and Edna, living at home. The family attend worship at the Lutheran church. The parents of our subject were natives of Norway, the father being engaged in farming all his life.

**Theodore Monson**, a live and energetic young farmer of Steele county, is a native son of that county, his natal date being

January 20, 1882. After receiving his education in the district schools he engaged in farming with his father and now conducts the old home place of 180 acres with his brother Mons. The brothers are believers in modern buildings and machinery and their farm is a splendid example of up-to-date agriculture. About sixty acres is under the plow, but much of the farm is devoted to stock raising, Durham cattle and Poland-China hogs being their specialty. Andrew Monson, father of our subject, was born in Lerdahl, Norway, May 9, 1846. Completing his education in the Fatherland, he emigrated to this country at the age of twenty, first settling in Wisconsin and then in Steele county, Minnesota, where he followed farming until his death in 1908. He was married to Betsie Thompson, also a native of Norway, by whom he had eight children, six of whom are now living: Mons, born in Steele county, April 12, 1872, is engaged in farming in Havana township; Louis is a farmer of Waseca county; Anna is the wife of Edward Hanson, a farmer of Lemond township; Theodore, the subject of this sketch; Andrew is located at Waterloo, Ia., and Margaret is living at home. The family are loyal members of the Lutheran Church, in which the father held many offices of trust. In politics he was a Republican.

**Hans P. Paulsen**, a very progressive farmer of Blooming Prairie township, is a native of Denmark, the date of his birth being June 14, 1865. Hans received his education in his native land, after which he engaged in farming until coming to America in 1884. Locating in Blooming Prairie township, in 1894, Mr. Paulsen purchased an eighty acre farm in Section 11 and in 1902 sold this property and bought 160 acres in Section 9 of Blooming Prairie township. He has built new and modern buildings, which include a splendid barn, 56x60 feet, and fully improved this land, upon which he makes his home. He makes a specialty of Shorthorn cattle and Duroc Jersey hogs and takes pride in his Belgian and Percheron horses. Mr. Paulsen was joined in marriage on October 20, 1894, to Mattie Nelson. Their home has been made happy by eight children, who are all at home: Rasmus, Esther, Mable, Emma, Lillie, Arthur, William and Clarence. Mr. Paulsen is a loyal Republican and religiously affiliates with the Danish Lutheran Church. He has always been interested in the welfare of his community, having been constable for two years, and is at present treasurer of the school district, which office he has held for six years. He is a member of the Union Creamery Association and a man highly respected by the people of his section. Christian Jensen and Anna D. Paulsen, his wife, parents of Hans P. Paulsen, were natives of Denmark. Christian Jensen died in his native land in 1888 and Mrs. Jensen still remains in the old Denmark home.

**Herman Frederick Pauzer**, an enterprising farmer of Berlin township, was born in Prussia, Germany, thirty-eight years ago, coming to America with his parents in 1876 and settling in Owatonna. In 1896 Herman came to Berlin township and purchased eighty acres of land in Section 3, where he now lives. He conducts a general diversified farming business. Mr. Pauzer was married to Hannah Sommers on March 31, 1896, to whom six children have been born: Ernest, who died September 21, 1897; Grace, William, Herman, Rose, all at home; Hannah Elizabeth, died April 24, 1910. Mr. Pauzer politically is a Democrat and an adherent of the German Lutheran Church. He has served his township as supervisor for two years, was constable for four years, justice of the peace for two years, and has been a trusted officer of the Deerfield Insurance Company for eight years. Mr. Pauzer is a good citizen, always alert to the needs of his community.

Mr. Pauzer's father, after coming to the United States in 1876, worked out by the day until 1877, when he purchased a farm of eighty acres in Somerset township, upon which farming was continued until the time of his death in 1899. The mother died in 1881.

**Joseph W. Brierton**, of Aurora township, first saw the light of day in Lee county, Illinois, on July 21, 1851, where he acquired his education in district schools. Coming to Aurora township, Joseph farmed with his father until October 1, 1891, then bought the home farm of 160 acres in Section 7, Aurora township, and added 160 acres adjoining in Section 8, making 320 acres. In 1902 he rented his farm and moved to Owatonna and resided there until 1907, when he returned to the home farm.

**John S. Renchin**, for many years a well known farmer of Aurora township, is a native of Bohemia, his natal date being December 25, 1851. At an early age he emigrated to this country with his parents, who located in Steele county, Minnesota, the father engaging in farming. John S. received his education in the district schools, after which he gave his whole attention to farming, with such success that he acquired his present farm of 160 acres. Sixty of this is under the plow, the remainder being well utilized for pasturage and woodland. Dairying is extensively carried on, a fine herd of Shorthorn and Durham cattle supplying milk, which nets a good price at a nearby creamery. Poland-China hogs have also been a factor in the success of this farm. All modern improvements have been added and a beautiful home adds to the comfort of the family. It is an eleven-mile drive from his farm to Owatonna, the usual market. In political faith Mr. Renchin is a Democrat, and though he has never aspired to office, he has served many years as treasurer of



his school district. In 1890 he was married to Celia Zak, daughter of Joseph Zak, a retired farmer. Five children have been born to this union: Josie, Johnnie, Walter, Lewis and Alice. The family worship at the Catholic Church. John and Catherine Renchin, parents of our subject, emigrated from Bohemia, locating in Steele county, Minnesota, where the father was engaged in farming up to the time of his death. The mother is still living at Owatonna.

**Peter Sorenson**, a well known farmer of Steele county, was born in Denmark, July 14, 1863. At the age of nine years he crossed the waters with his parents, who located on a farm in Lemond township, Steele county, where he passed his boyhood, receiving a somewhat scanty education in the district schools. After leaving school he worked in St. Paul for three years and then returned to this county and engaged in farming on his present place of a hundred and twenty acres, every acre of this having been won from the wilderness by his own efforts. The entire farm is under cultivation, and through common sense agriculture and hard work Mr. Sorenson has made it one of the model farms of the county. In politics he is a staunch adherent of the Republican party and is keenly alive to all that tends for the welfare of the community. He has served on the town board over ten years. June 13, 1891, he was married to Lena Erikson, daughter of Martin Erikson, of Bixby. They have five children: Harry, George, Alice, Herman and Clarence. The family are believers in the faith of the Lutheran Church. August and Lena (Hansen) Sorenson, parents of Peter, emigrated to this country in 1873, at once locating on a farm in Lemond township, Steele county, Minnesota, where the father followed farming up to his death in 1891. The mother died a year later. Mr. Sorenson was a Republican and a member of the Lutheran Church. Five children were born to them: Hans, a farmer near Owatonna; Mary, wife of Frank Johnson, of Owatonna; Chris, who married Sophia Peterson; Henry, engaged in farming in Clinton Falls township; and Peter, our subject.

**A. G. Schmidt**, an enterprising farmer of Meriden township, Steele county, was born in West Prussia, Germany, November 2, 1874. At the age of eight he emigrated to America with his parents, who settled on a farm in Meriden township, on which he passed his boyhood, receiving his education in the district schools. After school he assisted his father on the home farm for a time, and then struck out for himself, acquiring his present farm of eighty acres of highly productive land by hard work and industry. Fifty-five acres are under the plow, the remainder yielding a good income as woodland and pasturage. A large herd of Holstein cows yield liberal returns, the milk being dis-



posed of to a nearby creamery at good prices. Poland-China swine are a specialty of Mr. Schmidt's. In politics he is a believer in the doctrines of the Republican party, and though he has never desired office has served three years as supervisor of Meriden township. He is associated with the Mutual Aid Insurance Company of Iowa. During 1905 he was married to Minnie Kottke. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Schmidt: Alice, Carl, Alvin and Mildred. The family attend worship at the Lutheran Church. Herman John and Carolina Schmidt, parents of our subject, crossed the waters in 1882, locating for a short time in Somerset township, Steele county, Minnesota, and then in Meriden township, where the father followed general farming up till 1904. He then moved to Owatonna with his wife, having since retired from active work. Four sons were born to them: A. G., our subject; August and Emil, of Meriden township; and Rudolph, of Iowa.

**O. D. Selleck**, a prominent farmer of Steele county, was born in Racine, Wis., June 19, 1854. While still an infant he came with his parents to Steele county, receiving what education possible in the crude schools of those times and afterwards assisting his father on the farm before engaging in agriculture on his own account. His present place consists of 120 acres of productive land, all of which is under the plow with the exception of twenty acres devoted to woodland. Besides general mixed farming, dairying and cattle, sheep and horse raising is extensively carried on, Mr. Selleck having thirty head of high bred Shorthorn and Holstein cattle, which supply milk of the best quality to a nearby creamery, and seventy head of Shropshire sheep, which contribute heavily to the net profits. Good all-around horses are bred and raised. Up-to-date buildings and machinery assist much in the working of the farm. As to political convictions he is a staunch Republican and has filled many positions of trust, having served as town clerk, supervisor, school board member, and four years as county commissioner. The Knights of Pythias and the Ancient Order of United Workmen count him among their valued members. In 1874 he was married to Margaret Russell, daughter of Gilbert and Caroline (Ames) Russell, pioneers of Steele county. Mr. and Mrs. Selleck have one daughter, Ada, who is engaged in teaching. Alson and Mary A. (Kent) Selleck, parents of our subject, are natives of St. Lawrence county, New York. Joining the tide of emigration westward, in 1849, they located in Wisconsin, where the father continued a farmer six years, then removing to Steele county and pre-empting the farm he still owns. After living in a tent for a short while they moved into a then luxurious log cabin, which was their dwelling for many years. Indians and other pioneer trials

had to be endured. Gilbert and Caroline (Ames) Russell, parents of Mrs. O. D. Selleck, now deceased, were also pioneers of this county, coming from New York state in 1867.

**Joseph Shubert** is one of the prosperous farmers of Blooming Prairie township, where he has lived about thirty-five years. He was born in Bohemia and came to America in 1874, living a year in Indiana before coming here. He is assisted on his farm of 200 acres by his son, Anton Shubert, one of the well-liked men of the community.

**John Virtue**, an old and respected farmer of Steele county, was born in the northern part of Ireland, December 14, 1833. After receiving his education in the Fatherland he emigrated to America, locating in Columbia county, New York, where he followed farming seven years. He then removed to Steele county in 1859, purchased his present 460-acre farm, on which he still resides, his son Emmett attending to the management. In politics he has always been an active Democrat, serving one term as a member of the state legislature during 1893, and has filled all township offices and served as a member of the school board. The Episcopal Church values him as a loyal member. In October, 1856, he was united in marriage with Mary Dinan, who came over from Ireland in 1850. The children, five of whom are living, are: D. E., a manufacturer of Owatonna; W. J., engaged in farming near Owatonna; Leonard, who owns and conducts a farm near Blooming Prairie; Emmett, who operates the home farm; and Alice M., who lives at home. Emmett J., who conducts the home farm, was born on the old homestead, April 17, 1871. After receiving his education in the district schools and completing with a course in the Owatonna high school, he gave his attention to farming, which he has since followed, now having entire charge of his father's farm, and in addition owns 200 acres of fine pasturage. High grade Shorthorn cattle are raised on an extensive scale, and modern improvements and equipments make economical farming. As to political convictions he is a Democrat, having served in numerous township offices. The C. O. F. and the Knights of Columbus count him as an active brother. In religious matters he follows the guidance of the Catholic Church.

**Albert Wilker**, a prosperous farmer of Meriden township, is a native son of Steele county, his natal date being February 4, 1878. His boyhood was passed on his father's farm, receiving his education in the district schools. His school days over, he engaged in farming, now owning 240 acres of finely cultivated land, with buildings and equipment of the most modern type. He makes a specialty of breeding and raising Shorthorn and Durham cattle and Poland-China hogs. In politics he is a fol-

lower and believer in the tenets of the Republican party. March 7, 1903, he was married to Lena Ahlers, daughter of John Ahlers, a prominent farmer of Steele county. Two children have blessed this marriage, Edna and Irma. The family are loyal attendants of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Wilker is a son of John and Emelia (Welk) Wilker, the father a retired farmer of Owatonna.

**William Woker**, an up-to-date farmer of Steele county, was born in Washington county, Wisconsin, October 29, 1858. At the age of eight years he removed with his parents to Steele county, his father soon afterwards settling on a 160-acre farm in Meriden township. After receiving his education in the district schools he assisted his father in carrying on the home place until 1880, when he bought his present farm, consisting of 160 acres of well improved land, which he has brought to a high state of productiveness through hard work and modern methods of agriculture. Fine Durham cattle and Poland-China swine are his specialties. The Democratic party claims his allegiance in matters of politics and he has ably served on the town board and thirteen years as school treasurer. October 3, 1880, he was united in marriage with Othilia Stelter, daughter of William Stelter, a tailor by trade. Seven children have come of this marriage: George, an engraver and watchmaker of Oskaloosa, Ia.; and Ernest, Ida, Alfred, Eddie, Luella and Charles, all reside at home. The Lutheran Church counts the family as valued members. Herman and Wilhelmina (Hager) Woker, parents of our subject, were natives of Lippedepebold, Germany, where the father followed farming. Emigrating to America about 1848, he located near Freeport, Ill., and engaged in farming three years, subsequently removing to Washington county, Wisconsin. In 1866 he came to Steele county and after residing a year in Owatonna purchased a quarter section in Meriden township and continued farming until his death in 1887. The mother died five years later. He was prominent in the Lutheran Church and in the Democratic party, serving four years as justice of the peace while in Wisconsin. Eight children were born to him and his wife: Louisa, Riche, Christian, Henrietta, Minnie, Caroline, William and Fred.

**Samuel Wanous**, a farmer of Havana township, Steele county, was born in this county, March 7, 1872. Completing his education in the district schools, he immediately engaged in farming and now owns a fine farm of 160 acres in Havana township, which he purchased in 1902. Two-thirds of this land is under the plow, the remainder being utilized to the best advantage as woodland and pasturage. Strictly modern and up-to-date buildings and machinery, which have all been added by the present occupant, have been material in raising this farm to its high state

of productiveness. High-grade stock furnishes milk that brings the highest returns from the local creamery. Mr. Wanous also owns a large number of Poland-China hogs. In political convictions he is a Democrat, taking an active interest in all public affairs. He was married, in 1901, to Rosa Stursa, daughter of John and Anna Stursa. They have four children: Rosa, Georgia, Samuel and Alice, all living at home. John and Anna, parents of our subject, came over from Bohemia forty-seven years ago, at once locating in Steele county, where the father followed farming. He is still living at Pratt, Steele county, enjoying a ripe old age. Eleven children were born to him and his good wife, all of whom are leading a useful life.

**N. O. Partridge**, a self-made farmer of Steele county, was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, December 12, 1854. His education was received in the common and high schools of Dane county, concluding with a course in a commercial college at Madison. After his graduation he taught school for ten years and then emigrated west to Montana, where he accumulated most of his property, afterward returning to Wisconsin for a time, coming to Steele county in the spring of 1889 and purchasing eighty acres in Clinton Falls township and forty acres one mile east of Owatonna. The entire 120 acres is under the plow and in spite of poor health he has been successful in his farming operations. Much attention is given to dairying, graded stock being bred and raised. All modern improvements conducive to up-to-date farming and the comfort of the family have been added, the home being fitted with heat, gas and the other conveniences. In politics he gives his allegiance to the Democratic party and has always taken an active part in local affairs, having served as county commissioner, chairman of township board of supervisors, president of Merton Creamery, president of Deerfield Insurance Company, vice-president of the Farmers' Elevator and Mercantile Company, secretary of Steele County Good Roads Association, and director of the school board.

He is now a member of the Minnesota Co-operative Dairies Association, for the marketing of Minnesota butter; secretary of Merton Telephone Company, and member of town board. In 1889 he was married to Anna Van Buren, by whom he has three children: Jessie R., attending the University of Minnesota as a junior; Charles A., a graduate of the Owatonna high school; and Osborne V. B., who is in his senior high school year. Joseph and Ruth Ann (Scott) Partridge, parents of our subject, were born and reared in Massachusetts and Nova Scotia, respectively. The father was a merchant and shipper of Boston for many years, but later removed to Wisconsin and engaged in farming. He died in 1861. The mother deceased at Owatonna



in 1885. Ten children were born to them, eight of whom are living. Martin and Rose (Buhlman) Van Buren, parents of Mrs. N. O. Partridge, resided in Wisconsin until the spring of 1901, when they moved to Owatonna. He died in 1904.

**Conrad Henry Wilker**, a well known farmer of Meriden township, Steele county, was born in Guttenburg, Ia., August 22, 1854. Two years after his birth his parents came to Steele county and here he received his education in the district schools and grew to manhood. Leaving school, he assisted his father in the carrying on of the home farm until he became of age, and then engaged in farming on his own account, having since acquired a well improved and highly productive farm of 320 acres, well stocked with cattle and high-bred hogs of the Duroc-Red variety. As to political faith he is loyal to the Republican party and has ably served four years as county commissioner and is now rounding out his fifteenth year as a member of the district school board. He has also filled numerous township offices. April 5, 1876, he was united in marriage with Dora Abbe, daughter of Henry Abbe, a resident of Meriden township, before his decease. Ten children have been born to this marriage: Martha, who is married to Fred Henkensiefken, a farmer of Berlin, has two children, James and Elsie; H. C., engaged in farming in Berlin township, is married to Lena Vanberg and has five children, Mamie, Oliver, Clarence, Alice and Ruby; John, a farmer of Meriden, is married to Martha Dinse, has one child, Irena; Emma, is the wife, of Carl Ruel, a farmer of Summit township, and has two children, Esther and Mabel; Ella, now Mrs. Fred Dinse, has one child, Alma; and Mary, Mathilda, Herman, Clara and Dora all live at home. The family are loyal adherents to the faith of the German Lutheran Church. Christopher Henry and Louisa (Ribbe) Wilker, parents of Conrad Henry, are natives of Hanover, Germany. The father emigrated to the United States at about the age of twenty-one, and after working on a canal for a time and seeing a good deal of the country, he finally located in Guttenburg, Ia., where he followed farming. In 1856 he came to Steele county, together with other hardy pioneers, and homesteaded the farm now known as the Mrs. Brase place, in Meriden township, remaining here until 1890, when he removed to San Diego, Cal., where he now lives retired from active life. Ten children were born to him, six of whom are still living: John H., of Owatonna; Conrad Henry, the subject of this sketch; Anna, wife of John Scholljegerdes, a farmer of Lemond township; William, engaged in farming in Summit township; E. L., a farmer of Havana township; and Mary, married to Frank Janke, a prominent fruit grower of California and interested in politics.





MR. AND MRS. C. H. WILKER



**T. E. Barker**, one of Medford township's substantial farmers, is a native of the state of New York. He was born in Homer, Cortland county, April 28, 1845. In 1863 the Barker family came to Minnesota and located in Lemond township, where the subject of this sketch attended the district school. Upon leaving school Mr. Barker followed farming and when about twenty-four years of age purchased railroad land in Lemond township. Here he lived and labored for eighteen years. Selling this property, he bought land in Medford township, which he cultivated for three years, then disposed of this farm and removed to Missouri, where he bought land and lived six years. Returning to Minnesota, Mr. Barker rented a farm for a year before he secured the 162 acres in Medford township, upon which he still resides. In 1874 T. E. Barker was united in marriage to Clara Curtis. Their home has been blessed by eight children: Ella Grace, Clara B., now a teacher in Oregon; T. F. Barker, a farmer in Havana township; W. G. Barker, now a resident of North Dakota; Charles B., deceased, W. S., Josephine and Esther still remain under the parental roof. Mr. Barker is a stanch Republican, a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and holds the office of pathmaster in Lemond township. He is interested in all that promotes the prosperity of his home community and is a stockholder in the Medford Creamery. Barzillai Barker and Serena Chollar, his wife, parents of T. E. Barker, were natives, respectively, of Rhode Island and New York. Mr. Barker was a blacksmith by trade, but left this occupation to engage in farming. In 1863 he came to Minnesota and located in Lemond township, where he bought land, but only lived one year after coming West. The mother died later on the old homestead.

**Riley A. Case**, a progressive farmer of Steele county, his birthplace, was born August 22, 1868. After receiving all the education possible in the neighboring district school he engaged in farming on the home place with his father, now having the entire management. The farm consists of 160 acres of well improved land in Somerset township and is well equipped with modern buildings and machinery, far different than it was in the early days when the grain was mowed with a scythe and a log cabin sufficed for a dwelling. A large herd of Durham cattle furnish milk of a grade which commands top prices at a neighboring creamery. Poland-China hogs are also a profitable factor. In politics he gives his allegiance to the Republican party. Phelps and Catherine (Powell) Case, parents of our subject, were among the earliest settlers of this county, the father coming here from Connecticut and pre-empting the quarter-section now owned by his son in 1856. Every man had to depend on himself in those days, and the hardships and privations discouraged all

but the stoutest spirits. Mr. Case proved to be of true pioneer stuff, however, and now lives with his wife on his son's farm, enjoying the fruits of a well spent life. Nine children were born to him: William, the oldest is an architect at Duluth; Addie May is deceased; Sam S. is engaged in the livery business at Rochester, Minn.; Delbert is connected with the wholesale firm of Stone, Ordey & Wells, of Duluth; Riley A., our subject; Charles, a farmer of Dodge county; Jeanette is married to E. H. Naylor, a farmer of Merton township; Mamie is the wife of T. A. Kuchenbecker; and Frankie died in infancy. Phelps Case has always been an active member of the Republican party, serving for eighteen years as town clerk and in many school offices.

**Alexander Chambers**, a live and progressive farmer of Steele county, was born in Havana township, Steele county, January 12, 1873. The beginning of his education was received in the district schools of Havana, later attended Pillsbury Academy, and concluding with a course at Lawrence University, of Appleton, Wis. After leaving school he engaged in teaching five years and then bought a general store at Pratt, Minn., in partnership, with Willis Chambers, remaining in this business for two years. After disposing of his mercantile interests he purchased the farm which he now operates, consisting of a hundred and sixty acres of well improved land, mostly under cultivation. All machinery and buildings are of up-to-date style, a cement silo furnishing a large proportion of the feed for his herd of thoroughbred Holsteins. He is actively interested in the Havana Creamery, having served as its president five years and as secretary and manager one. A large number of Yorkshire hogs add to the productiveness of the farm. Mr. Chambers takes an active part in local politics as a Republican, now serving as chairman of the trustees of Havana village. June 28, 1899, he was married to Rose M. Crickmore, daughter of Robert Crickmore, whose sketch appears elsewhere. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Chambers, four of whom are living. Named in order of ages they are: Robert Burton, Lindsey Alexander (deceased), Emma Lucy, George William, and Charles Frank. George and Emma (Burns) Chambers, parents of our subject, are natives of Belfast, Ireland, and New York, respectively. The father emigrated to this country at the age of twenty-one, locating in Cattaraugus county, New York, as a foreman on the Genessee Valley Canal. In 1856 he came to Steele county, shortly afterwards spending a winter in Winona, and then returned and purchased a farm in Havana township of Danforth Potter, on which he followed general farming until his death in 1898. His wife followed him to the great beyond seven years later. He was prominent in local politics, serving as a member of the town board many years. In religious

faith he was a Presbyterian and in his early days was an elder in the church of that denomination at Owatonna. Seven children were born to him: Sarah Isabel, wife of M. E. White, of Claremont; Minnie May, married to Emery Reynolds, of Indianapolis; Margaret Jane, now Mrs. W. E. Williams; Alexander, the subject of this sketch; William J., who operates a tiling machine in partnership with his two younger brothers, George J. and Frank R.

**D. Searls**, an old and prominent resident of Merton township, Steele county, was born in New York state, March 27, 1838. His education was received in the district schools, afterwards working on his father's farm until the outbreak of the war, when he enlisted with Company B, Thirty-fifth New York Volunteer Infantry, in May, 1861, the time of the first call to arms. His regiment formed part of the Army of the Potomac and he saw active service in all the battles of his regiment, among them being those of first and second Bull Run, in the latter of which he was wounded, South Mountain, Maryland, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville and Chantille. At the close of the struggle he was mustered out at Elmira, N. Y. Returning to civil life, in 1865, he migrated west and settled on eighty acres, which he has now increased to 200, in Merton township, Steele county. Single-handed he attacked the virgin soil, gradually bringing it up to its present state of productiveness. At first he lived in a rude log shanty, but this was soon supplanted by a comfortable frame dwelling. He has about one hundred acres under cultivation and does general farming, raising cattle and Poland-China hogs with much success. Roy, Ralph and Erwin, the three boys living at home, attend to the working of the place, though Mr. Searls takes an active part in the direction of affairs. In politics he is an adherent of the Republican party. James A. Goodwin Post, No. 81, Grand Army of the Republic, counts him a valued member. In 1866 he was united in marriage with Celestine Wallace, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. (Putnam) Wallace, of Vermont. Six children have blessed this marriage: Walter, of the state of Washington; and Marion, Gertrude, Roy, Ralph and Erwin, all living at home. The family attend the Methodist Church. Walter and Charlotte (Cook) Searls, parents of our subject, were born and raised in New York state, where the father followed farming up to the time of his death. The mother is also deceased. Eight children were born to them, four of whom are still living.

**Peter Brosen**, an energetic young farmer of Steele county, his birthplace, was born July 6, 1880. After receiving a common school education in the district schools and a thorough knowledge of farming on his father's farm he launched out for himself, now carrying on extensive farming operations on 160 acres of his own



in Section 26, Merton township, and on 400 adjoining which he rents. High-grade Durham cattle are raised, which supply cream of the best quality to a neighboring creamery, of which Mr. Brosen is a stockholder. Poland-China hogs are also a money-making factor. The house and barn, together with all the numerous outbuildings, have been remodeled and are now strictly up-to-date. As to political convictions he is a Republican, but has never aspired to office. In 1902 he was united in matrimony with Georgia Naylor, daughter of George and Jennie (Smart) Naylor, well known pioneer settlers of this county. Mr. and Mrs. Brosen have two children: George N. and Lester Emerson. Nels and Mary (Scott) Brosen, parents of Peter, are natives of Denmark. In 1873 they emigrated to this country, farming it in Wisconsin for a year, and then removed to Merton township, Steele county, still residing on the old farm, consisting of forty-three acres, adjoining their son's property.

**Wilhelm F. Wilker**, one of Summit township's prosperous citizens, was a native of the state, having begun life in Meriden township, January 29, 1859. Here he went to school in a log cabin in the pioneer days of Minnesota. In 1880 Mr. Wilker was married to Minnie Mueller, daughter of Adolph Mueller. Nine children have been added to their home: Carl, living in Summit township; Bertha, living in Owatonna; Anna, living in Arkansas; Minnie, now in Meriden township; August, Alma, Arthur, Elda and Wilhelm, Jr., still remain at home. Mr Wilker has a fine farm home of 160 acres in Summit township, twelve miles from Owatonna, where he has lived fourteen years. Prior to this he lived in Meriden township, also on a farm. A fine herd of Durham cattle thrive in his pastures, the milk from which is sold at the creamery. He raises Poland-China hogs and is progressive in all his methods. Mr. Wilker is a member of the Lutheran Church, chairman of the township board, member of the town board and is a public-spirited citizen.

**Leonard Virtue**, who is serving his county as state representative, is one of its most honored and respected citizens. He was born in Clinton Falls township, Steele county, April 2, 1865, receiving his education in the district schools, the Owatonna high school, and concluding with a course in Pillsbury Academy. Leonard then taught school for two terms, after which he assisted his father on the old home farm until 1888, when he removed to Owatonna and engaged in the flour, feed and grain business. Two years later he became associated with the Hastings and Diment Mills, known as the Hastings Milling Company after Mr. Diment's retirement in 1893. Mr. Virtue's business ability soon made itself felt, and when the company was re-incorporated after Mr. Hastings' death he was elected president, successfully

managing the plant till 1907, when he disposed of his interest and removed to Blooming Prairie. Here he purchased what is known as the "Big Farm," consisting of six hundred acres of fine land, all in the corporate limits. On this magnificent estate Mr. Virtue still follows general farming, dairying and stock raising, having one of the finest herds of Durham cattle in the state. The Democratic party counts him as a very active supporter, his wide popularity making him a valuable candidate. In 1890 he served the city of Owatonna as alderman of the Second Ward; 1895, he was elected mayor of the city, holding the office three times; and in 1907 he was appointed on the Owatonna state school board of control by Governor Johnson for a term of six years. Two years later, in 1909, he was obliged to resign, having been elected state representative, which position he is now ably filling. During 1907 he was a member of the Owatonna free public library board for a few months, resigning shortly after his election on account of his removal to Blooming Prairie. Mr. Virtue was one of the stockholders in the old Security Bank of Owatonna. The Modern Woodmen of America, Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Owatonna Gun Club count him an active member of their respective organizations. He was identified with the Owatonna Commercial Club for several years. At Minneapolis, May 30, 1889, he was united in marriage with Mabel L. Carpenter. They have one child, Gladys L., who is a student of the Southern Minnesota Normal College at Austin, Minn. The family attend the Universalist Church. John and Mary A. (Dinnin) Virtue, parents of Leonard, are natives of Ireland. Emigrating to America in 1855, they settled in New York state till their removal, four years later, to Clinton Falls township, Steele county, Minnesota, where the father has been engaged in general farming ever since. His wife died on June 25, 1901.

**Mathias P. Afdem**, the well known poultry breeder of Blooming Prairie, Minn., was born in Norway, August 1, 1871, where he acquired his education and had the usual experiences of a Norwegian farmer boy. In 1893 he left the fatherland and came to America, engaging as a hired man on a farm at Madelia, Minn., for three years. Then he removed to Chokio, Minn., where he engaged in the painting and decorating business until his removal to Blooming Prairie in 1900. Here he continued to follow his trade until 1909, when he launched into the poultry business to which he has devoted himself with much success ever since, making a specialty of raising and breeding thoroughbred stock of all the approved varieties. He has specialized to Single and Rose Comb Rhode Island Reds, Single and Rose Comb White Orpingtons, Partridge Wyandottes, besides many others. Six incubators of the most modern type having a capacity of 1,500

eggs, are kept continually in use. Mr. Afdem's trade is constantly increasing and his product is becoming more widely and favorably known each year. He is an adherent to the principles of the Republican party, but always votes for what he considers the best interests of the community. As to religious belief, the Lutheran Church claims him as a member. Peter H. and Gurie Afdem, parents of our subject, were natives of Norway, where they followed farming all their lives. The father died in August, 1908, and the mother in December, 1893.

**Thomas J. Rions**, a native of Minnesota, was born in Dodge county July 24, 1860, a son of John P. and Angeline (Strock) Rions. Thomas J. received his education at the Concord public schools, after leaving school he worked as a clerk in a store in Dodge county for twelve years, and then worked at farming until 1892, when he came to Owatonna and took a position at the Forest Hill Cemetery until July 1, 1908, and since then has had charge of the Catholic Cemetery. He also does job printing at his home where he has a full equipment for this line of work. He was married on June 10, 1886 at Dodge Center, to Eva E. Race, a daughter of John J. and Lovina (Miller) Race, of New York state, who came west and located first in Wisconsin, and in 1875 moved to Dodge Center, Minn. The father was a carpenter by trade and followed this line of work all his life. He died February 19, 1883, and the mother died June 23, 1887. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Rions: M. A., born December 4, 1890, now a teacher at Avon, S. D., and Raymond A., born August 8, 1898, living at home. They also have one adopted child, Ethel M., born April 6, 1895. In politics Mr. Rions is a Democrat, and he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and the Maccabees.

**John P. Rions** was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, January 29, 1820, the only child of George and E. Margaret Rions. The father died when J. P. was an infant and several years later the mother married William Pittman, who served in the war of 1812. J. P. left home when he was sixteen years of age, and then started out in life for himself. He was married December 29, 1841, to Maria Richardson, who died ten years later, leaving three children who are now dead. June 23, 1852, he married Angeline Strock, of Beaver, Pa., to whom was born eight children. After fourteen years working on the steamboats between Pittsburg, Pa., and Mobile, Ala., he came to Minnesota in 1855 and located in Concord, Dodge county. In the spring of 1859 he went to Pike's Peak, and in the spring of 1860 to the Yankton Sioux reservation. In February, 1863, he enlisted in Company E., Third Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served

until mustered out at Ft. Snelling, September 16, 1865, at the close of the war. In 1887, he and his wife spent a season in their old home in Beaver, Pa. Mr. Rions died June 14, 1896.

**Anton Burzinski**, a prominent member of the Owatonna fire department, was born in Medford, Minn., May 24, 1885, removing with his parents at the age of six years to Owatonna, where he received his education in the Sister's school. His school days over, he was engaged in various kinds of labor for several years, after which he became a drayman, being located in Owatonna, all the while, with the exception of five months spent in Graceville, Minn., during the year 1905. Outside of his regular work in the draying line, he is a very active and loyal member of the fire department, having his residence in the Firemen's Hall. In political faith, he is a staunch believer in the principles of the Democratic party. Mr. Burzinski is a popular member of the Catholic Order of Foresters and of the A. O. A. He is affiliated with the Catholic Church. Mr. and Mrs. Lanara Burzinski, parents of our subject, are natives of Poland, emigrating to this country in 1875, and locating at Duluth, Minn., where they remained till their removal to Medford township, Steele county, in 1887. Here the father was employed as a railroad section hand for four years, then removed to Owatonna and took up farming on a small tract inside the city limits on which he is still engaged.

**Benedik Melby**, a prominent physician of Blooming Prairie, Minn., was born at Whitehall, Wis., July 24, 1878, shortly afterwards removing with his parents to Merillan, same state. He received his education in the public schools, graduating from the Merillan high school, and then entered the medical department of the Minnesota State University from which he was graduated in 1903. After some practical experience in hospital work, he went to Hayfield, Minn., where he was engaged in the practice of his profession till 1905. Dr. Melby then located in Blooming Prairie, succeeding Dr. Bakke, and has built up a large and growing city and country clientage, which he still enjoys. He is affiliated with the Steele County Medical Association, State Medical Association and the American Medical Association, being highly esteemed by his professional brethren. The Modern Woodmen of America, Masons and Sons of Norway also number him among their loyal members. In politics he is a believer in the principles of the Republican party and takes an active interest in all that is for the good of his county and village. The Lutheran Church claims him as a member. Olaf and Johanna (Nelson) Melby, parents of Benedik, are natives of Norway, coming to this country in 1870, and settling at Whitehall, Wis., where the father conducted a general merchandise business till 1888, when he removed to Merillan, Wis., and



engaged in railroad work for several years. Later he returned to Merillan where he now resides with his wife.

**J. W. Lane**, a progressive farmer of Merton township, was born in Merton township in 1877, on February 24. He acquired his education in the district schools of Merton township after which he engaged in farming. In 1898 he rented his father's farm and at the time of his death became owner of the farm, where he has done a general farming business ever since. He has made a specialty of stock raising. Mr. Lane was married on January 19, 1898, to Nellie S. Carson. Their home has been blessed with five children—John Albert, Alice, Mertie, Cloe and Florence, all at home. Mr. Lane politically is a Republican. He holds stock in the Merton Creamery and is a good citizen. John Lane and Sarah, his wife, parents of J. W. Lane, were natives of the state of Ohio, coming to Minnesota and locating in Merton township, where they homesteaded land before the war. Mr. Lane responded to the call for volunteers at the time of the Civil War and enlisted in the Tenth Minnesota, being in the service three years. At the close of the struggle, he returned to the home farm where he farmed until his death in 1901. His wife died in 1882.

**D. D. Hansen**, a progressive and up-to-date farmer of Lemond township, Steele county, was born in Waseca county, Minnesota, January 30, 1870. After leaving school he at once engaged in farming and his present farm of a 160 acres of highly productive land is ample evidence of his success. Eighty of this is under cultivation, the remainder rendering good returns as woodland and as pasturage for his numerous stock. Durham cattle of good blood are raised, the milk being very profitably disposed of to a near by creamery. Poland-China hogs also help to swell the profits. The machinery and buildings are all of the best patterns for modern farming. In politics, he is a believer in the doctrines of the Republican party, and has always taken an active interest in local affairs, having served on the town board eight years, four years as chairman, and as a school officer. In 1894 he was united in marriage with Tilda Jacobson, daughter of Peter and Lena Jacobson. Mr. and Mrs. Hansen have eight children—Holly, Hazel, Eldora, Guy, Helen, Ethel, Alice and Deloris (deceased in infancy). The family attend worship at the Norwegian Lutheran Church. Torger and Mary Hansen, parents of our subject, came over from Norway, their native land, about fifty years ago, locating in Minnesota where the father followed farming. He is now residing, retired, at New Richmond, Minn., with his wife. Seven children were born to them, all of whom are living.



**Joseph F. Wolesky**, the popular and efficient buttermaker of the Steele Center Creamery, was born in Zhor, near Aska Trebova, Bohemia, June 27, 1878. After receiving an education in the old country, he emigrated to the United States at the age of fourteen, locating at Bixby, Minn., and working a year and a half on the farm of P. A. Reichstatter, and then a year for William Boyle, after which he spent eight months on a Summit township farm, subsequently working for Christ Larson in Somerset township. His first creamery experience was next acquired, serving as helper in the same creamery he now operates for eighteen months, and deciding to make this line of work a life profession, he entered a dairy school at St. Anthony Park, Minn., and completed a course in butter and cheese making. He showed his ability to use his knowledge in practice when shortly after returning to Steele county, he started the creamery at River Point and successfully operated it for two years. Leaving here, he conducted the Cooleyville Creamery for a time, and then took charge of the River Point creamery again two years and three months longer, being called to the Steele Center Creamery where he is now giving the best satisfaction to all concerned. As to political convictions, he is a Democrat, and has served as constable. October 10, 1898, he was married to Anna Schuster, daughter of Frank and Anna Schuster, of Bohemia. Three children have been born to this marriage—Louis, Joseph and Alfred. The family attend the Catholic Church. In addition to their comfortable home near the creamery, Mr. Wolesky owns a residence in Owatonna. Joseph and Frances (Zoufal) Wolesky, parents of our subject are natives of Bohemia, where the father followed his trade as a tailor up to his death, February 28, 1909. The mother is still living in the fatherland. Two children were born to them—Joseph F., our subject; and Frank, a buttermaker at Owatonna, whose wife was formerly Lillie Kubicek. They are stanch supporters of the Catholic Church.

**Henry Behne**, an energetic and progressive farmer of Steele county, was born in Aurora township, this county, December 18, 1873. His education was acquired in the district schools, after which he worked on a farm for several years, and then rented a farm which he conducted successfully for four years when he acquired his present place. It consists of 120 acres of productive land, sixty-five of which is under the plow, the remainder being profitably devoted to pasturage and woodland. Dairying is an important factor, cream being sold to a near by creamery at good prices. In politics, he votes absolutely independent of party, giving his support to the man he believes best qualified to serve the people. April 16, 1898, he was married to Elizabeth Kruckeberg, sister of Henry and John Kruckeberg whose

sketches appear herein. They have five children—Lawrence, Herman, Robert, Helen and Myrtle. The family attend worship at the German Lutheran Church. August and Mary (Ahrns) Behne, parents of Henry, are natives of Hanover, Germany, the father coming to this country at the age of seven years, and locating in Steele county, where, after attaining maturity, he engaged in farming. He is still living in Aurora township with his wife, actively interested in the management of his farm. He is a Democrat, and prominent in the German Lutheran Church, having served as a trustee. Eleven children were born to them, all living except one.

**Fred Ahrens**, a wide-awake and up-to-date farmer of Steele county, was born in Germany, June 17, 1850. He passed his boyhood and received his education in the fatherland, coming to America with his parents in 1866, and locating in Havana township, Steele county, where he followed farming for a few years with his father. He then purchased eighty acres of the parental homestead, acquiring tracts of wild land from time to time, which he cleared and improved, now owning 640 acres of the best farming land in the county, 520 acres of this being located in sections 28 and 33 in Havana township, and the remaining 120 in section 3, Aurora. Mr. Ahrens is a stanch advocate of scientific, intelligent farming and every acre of his vast estate is utilized to the best advantage. The buildings are all of the most modern type, and in machinery and other equipment he is well abreast of the times. Dairying and stock raising are carried on on an extensive scale, having 125 head of cattle, seventeen horses and seven mules, besides a large amount of thoroughbred stock. Mr. Ahrens makes a specialty of breeding Shorthorn cattle, Poland-China hogs, and Shropshire sheep. In politics, he is a supporter of the Republican party, and in spite of his large agricultural interests, he has always found time to take an active part in community affairs. He has served four years as county commissioner during the time the erection of the court house was in progress, and was chairman of the Havana town board four years. The German Lutheran Church numbers him among its loyal followers. June 6, 1875, he was married to Dora Miller, by whom he has seven children—Elvina, now Mrs. Robert Bartsch; Hulda, wife of George Hintz; Bertha, who resides at home; Mary, married to Peter Nelson of Red Wing, Minn.; and William, Robert and Fred H., who live at home. Christopher and Corodena (Myer) Ahrens, parents of Fred, were natives of Germany, coming to this country, in 1866, and locating in Havana township, Steele county, Minnesota, where the father followed farming until his death. The mother is also dead.

**M. T. McCrady** was born in Fond Du Lac county, Wisconsin, February 3, 1859, he is a son of Peter and Ellen (Shay) McCrady, his father was a native of Glasgow, Scotland, and his mother of Kilkenny, Ireland. His father came to America in 1826, and his mother in 1846, the father first located in St. Lawrence county, New York, from there moved to McHenry county, Illinois, and thence to Wisconsin where he was married in 1853. He came to Steele county, Minnesota, in November, 1866, and located on section 15, in Aurora township, where he bought 160 acres of wild land which he broke and developed, erecting a home and out buildings and followed general farming for the remainder of his life. He died in June, 1894, and the mother died in February, 1901. Mr. McCrady received his education in District No. 13, Aurora township, and then engaged in farming with his father until 1893, when he began to work for himself on the old "Cogswell" farm owned by the Hon. Amos Cogswell, his wife's father. This farm covers 200 acres in sections 9, 10 and 15 of Aurora township. There he has erected his home and out buildings and has greatly improved his land and follows general diversified farming, making a specialty of raising White Leghorn fowls. Mr. McCrady was married June 3, 1893, to Abby Cogswell, a daughter of Hon. Amos Cogswell. She was born on the farm where she now lives on March 29, 1861. Four children have blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. McCrady—Francis C., born October 4, 1894; Amos C., born April 21, 1896; Lynn C., born July 11, 1899, died April 11, 1906; and Mark C., born May 2, 1901. The family faith is that of the Catholic and Presbyterian churches. Mr. McCrady is a member of the A. O. U. W. and the M. W. A. He has served his town as assessor for one year, served as clerk for eight years, and has been both treasurer and clerk of School District No. 13. He is a director of the Pratt Rural Telephone Company and was for two years secretary of the Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company. He has twice been a delegate to the conventions of the Modern Woodmen of America held at St. Paul in the years 1899 and 1901, and in 1901 was also a delegate to the National Convention of the M. W. A., which was also held in the city of St. Paul. In 1902 he was a delegate to the Republican State Convention held at St. Paul. He is one of Steele county's prosperous and successful farmers and has the confidence and respect of all who know him.

**S. D. Morford**, a sturdy old pioneer of Steele county, Minnesota, was born in Ontario township, Wayne county, New York, May 11, 1843. Shortly after his birth his parents removed to Dodge county, Wisconsin, where he received an elementary education in the district schools, concluding his schooling after coming to Owatonna in 1858. War breaking out in 1861, he

entered the service of his country in May of the same year, at Owatonna, being formally mustered in as a private in Company G, First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, at Fort Snelling, May 23, 1861. He was actively engaged in all the battles of his regiment up to Second Bull Run, bearing arms in the first battle of Bull Run, at Berryville, W. Va., Gainesville, Yorktown, Fair Oaks, Seven Day Battle, Savage Station, Peach Orchard and Melbourne Hill, most of these occurring under McClellan in the famous Peninsular campaign. During the summer of 1862 he was confined four weeks in a hospital at Harrison's Landing with malarial fever, and while serving in Pope's campaign, he was disabled by a spent ball and honorably discharged May 23, 1864, having proven himself a valiant and courageous soldier and winning the respect of his fellow comrades-in-arms. After leaving the service he returned to Owatonna and gave his attention to farming, later, in 1872, buying an eighty acre farm in Clinton Falls township, on which he remained till 1885, when he disposed of this property and purchased a 120 acre tract in section 29, Havana township. Here he followed general diversified farming up to the time of his retirement from active work in 1897, having erected new modern buildings throughout, and by application of the principles of scientific agriculture and hard work built up one of the finest farms in the county. He is now living retired at Havana Station, enjoying the fruits of a well spent life. Mr. Morford has ever been a loyal supporter of local enterprises, and served as a member of the board of directors of the Havana Creamery, of which he is still a stockholder, over twelve years, acting as president of the board three years, and as manager eight months during the absence of the regular manager. In politics, he is a supporter of the Republican party, and is actively interested in all that tends for the improvement of the county. He is now serving the community as town clerk. September 24, 1864, he was united in marriage with Tirzah E. Woods, of Somerset township, Steele county, by whom he has three children—Nellie, a graduate of the State Normal School at Winona, now teaching at Faribault; Roy D., married to Nellie Hickok, lives at Havana Station, but conducts the old home farm; Gertrude M., a State Normal School graduate, teaches school at Faribault. The family attend the services of the Baptist Church. C. W. and Mary A. (Dwight) Morford, parents of our subject, were natives of New York and Massachusetts, respectively. After the death of the mother in New York, 1843, the father migrated west with his family, settling in Dodge county, Wisconsin, and engaging in farming, encountering the usual hardships and privations of those pioneer days. He also devoted a large share of



his time to his trade as a carpenter, doing the first work in his line on the Waupun state prison. His decease occurred in 1857.

**John Kruckeberg**, a prosperous farmer of Aurora township, Steele county, his birthplace, was born September 29, 1860. After receiving what education he could from the pioneer district schools, he engaged in farming with his father, now owning the old homestead consisting of 480 acres, 150 of which is under cultivation. In addition to general farming, stock raising and dairying is carried on very successfully, a large herd of high bred Durham and Shorthorn cattle supplying milk of a quality which commands top prices at a neighboring creamery. Poland-China hogs crossed with Duroc Jerseys are a paying factor. All improvements tending to facilitate up-to-date and economical farming have been added. A commodious, modern barn, and a beautiful dwelling house are conspicuous. As to political convictions, he is a Republican, and has served in numerous school offices, and six years on the town board, one term as chairman. On January 3, 1883, he was married to Emelia Ohrmann, daughter of William and Sophia (Behne) Ohrmann, by whom he has eight children, all living at home: George, John, Erna, Lydia, Arnold, Emelia, Nettie and Alfred. The family are loyal attendants of the Lutheran Church. Fred and Sophia (Meyer) Kruckeberg, parents of our subject, came from Hessen, Germany, in 1854, locating in Illinois for a short time and then in Aurora township, Steele county, Minnesota, where the father homesteaded eighty acres of land, gradually adding to this until at one time he owned over 1,000 acres. He died in 1894, and the mother in 1892. Thirteen children were born to them, ten still living.

**Samuel S. Hanson**, was born in Lemond township, Steele county, on April 6, 1881, where he received his education. After gaining his schooling, Samuel engaged in farming with his father until September 1, 1906, when he came to Ellendale village and went into the livery business, which he conducted up to July 16, 1910. Mr. Hanson met with success in his light and heavy livery and draying business. He runs an automobile in connection with his livery, is now general agent for the Northwestern National Life Insurance Company, of Minneapolis. Mr. Hanson was married to Julia Jacobson on June 11, 1903, and their home has been made bright with five children—Elsie, who died in infancy; Stanley, Joyce, Lester, Clayton, all at home. The subject of this sketch is a Republican politically, and religiously affiliates with the Norwegian Lutheran Church. He has made his success in life by his own hard work and is a good citizen, respected by his home village. Sening Hanson and Emma, his wife, parents of Samuel S. Hanson, are natives of Norway,



coming to America and locating in Steele county in 1860. Mr. Hanson engaged in farming until 1902, when he retired from active life.

**Fred E. Ribstein**, a well known farmer of Merton township, Steele county, was born in Dodge county, Wisconsin. At the age of six he came to Steele county with his parents, receiving his education in the district schools. After school, he assisted his father in the working of the home farm for a while, and then engaged in farming on his own account, now having a highly productive tract of 360 acres most of which is under cultivation. In addition to general farming, dairying and stock raising are important factors. Durham cattle and Percheron horses being specialties. All modern equipment and up-to-date buildings are found here. In politics he is a stanch adherent of the Republican party, actively interested in local affairs, having served on the town board, part of the time as chairman. The Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America number him among their loyal members. Fred and Sophia (Smith) Ribstein, parents of our subject, were natives of Germany, the father a carpenter by trade. Coming to this country about 1850, he located at Ithaca, N. Y., continuing at his trade here and after his removal to Dodge county, Wisconsin. Migrating to this county about 1868, he purchased land and engaged in farming up to the time of his death which occurred in 1892. The mother passed away a year later. Nine children were born to them, five of whom are living: Lou, a hardware merchant at Bruce, S. D.; Frank, a wheat buyer, also located at Bruce, S. D.; Edward, in the hardware business in Idaho; Flora, wife of Henry Partridge, of Kenyon, Minn.; and Fred, our subject. The family attend the Lutheran Church.

**Joseph Simon**, of Aurora township, was born in Austria, January 20, 1867. His parents, John and Barbara Simon, both lived and died in the old country. Joseph spent his boyhood in Austria where he received his education. At eighteen years of age, lured by the call of America and the freedom and opportunities it offered, Joseph came to the United States and located at Faribault. Here he remained until 1892, employed by Donald Grant. In that year he purchased 146 acres of wild land in section 28, Aurora township, Steele county, and with his wife located his home there. Here he has since lived. The unbroken prairie, under his industrious management, became fertile, cultivated acres. In 1907 new buildings were erected, including a barn 28 x 70 feet in size. He follows diversified farming and is a stockholder in Oak Glen Creamery. In politics, he is a Republican and in his religious affiliations an adherent of the Catholic Church. On March 23, 1892, Joseph Simon was married to Mary

Haberman who was run over and killed by a railroad train while taking cream to the creamery on the crossing of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, at Bixby, Minn., September 12, 1903. Mr. Simon was united in marriage on November 20, 1904, to Anna Palinka. Seven children bless his home. Four by his first marriage: John, George, Mollie and Edward. Three by his present wife: Freda, Joseph and Mary.

**Wm. Lonergan** came to Berlin township in 1857, where he acquired over a section of land that is now owned by his sons, Peter A., Maurice J., H. Robert and Mrs. J. F. Lonergan. His other son, Wm. P., is at present living in Alberta, Canada, where he has two large farms and is engaged in ranching. Mr. Lonergan has three daughters—Mrs. L. P. Devlin, of Bristol, Wis.; Mrs. F. C. Annett, of New Richland, Minn., and Sister Claudia, of the Winona Seminary, Winona, Minn.

**William Hegland**, a prosperous farmer of Merton township, Steele county, is a native of Goodhue county, his natal date being December 8, 1872. While still in his infancy, his parents removed to Steele county, locating on the farm he now operates. After receiving his education in the district schools, he assisted his father for a time on the home farm, and ever since has been engaged in general farming with the exception of four years spent in Duluth running a dray line. In 1904 he purchased his present farm, consisting of 200 acres all under cultivation and well improved by his father and self. Holstein cattle, Poland-China hogs and Percheron horses contribute heavily to the success of the farm. In politics he inclines toward the tenets of the Democratic party, but casts his ballot as he considers for the best interests of the community. He was married November 3, 1904, to Randi Strandemo, daughter of E. Strandemo, of Ellington, Dodge county. They have two children—Edroy Tillman and Grace Angeline. The family are prominent in the Norwegian Lutheran Church, the father now serving as secretary. T. A. and Anna Hegland, parents of our subject, were born and raised in Norway, the family emigrating to this country in 1871 and locating in Goodhue county, Minnesota, where he followed his trade as a carpenter for five years. He then removed to Steele county, buying the farm his son, William, now occupies, conducting the farm and doing carpenter work until his death in 1904. The mother is still living. Nine children were born to them, all living: Ella is married to Peter Ruen who lives in Kenyon; Jennie is a dressmaker in Minneapolis; Annon is a clothing merchant of Duluth; Mary is married to Charles Jacobson, a Steele county farmer; William, our subject; George conducts a general merchandise store in North Dakota; James has a harness shop at Minneapolis; Tilla is a missionary, located at

Madagascar; and Martin is a professor, a graduate of the United Lutheran Church theological school at Hamline, and a minister of the Norwegian Lutheran Church.

**Edward R. Webster**, a hard working and enterprising farmer of Clinton Falls township, Steele county, was born in Aurora township, this county, December 12, 1872. His education was received in the public schools of Aurora and Owatonna, subsequently engaging in farming in which he has had unusual success. His present place is one of the best improved in the county, consisting of 310 acres practically all under cultivation. Holstein cattle and thoroughbred Belgian horses contribute to the profits. As to political convictions he believes in voting for the man best fitted for the office, regardless of his party affiliations. The Independent Order of Odd Fellows counts him a loyal brother. December 29, 1899, he was married to Fanny Schultz, daughter of D. C. Schultz, of Clinton Falls. Four children have been born to them, who, named in order of ages, are: Harlan, Pearl, Leon and Gilbert. The family attend worship at the Presbyterian Church. Richard and Fanny (Connor) Webster, parents of Edward R., were natives of Portsmouth, N. H., and Ireland, respectively. The father was a carpenter by trade, working in the navy yards of Portsmouth for four years. He received an honorable discharge. In 1855 he immigrated west, locating in Dixon, Lee county, and engaging in farming. Two years later he removed to Aurora township, Steele county, being one of the pioneer settlers, and purchased a homesteader's rights, following farming up to his death, April 25, 1898. In politics he supported the Republican party. Four of the nine children born to his wife are living. Abbie, wife of Lewis Johnson, a hardware merchant, of Beltrami county, Minnesota; Jennie S., teaching at Yakima, Wash.; Fannie E., living at home; and Edward R., the subject of this sketch.

**Albert A. Peterson**, of Blooming Prairie, was born in Austin, Minn., January 28, 1872, son of George A. and Isabella (Sletter) Peterson, natives of Wisconsin, of Norwegian parentage. The father is a prominent farmer of Dodge county, Minnesota. He is secretary of the A. Solberg Lumber Company, of Blooming Prairie, and director of the Farmer & Merchant State Bank. Albert received his early education in the public and high schools of Blooming Prairie, which was supplemented with a course at the Pillsbury Academy of Owatonna, from which institution he graduated in 1895. Leaving school he took up agricultural pursuits for a few years, he then went into the telephone industry. In 1901, he organized the Steele County Telephone Company of Blooming Prairie, becoming its president and general manager, which position he has since filled. Mr. Peterson has worked up

a large business for this company and their lines now extend through Steele, Dodge, Freeborne and Moore counties. Mr. Peterson was married October 23, 1901, at St. Paul, to Miss Regna, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Peterson. Two children have been born to their union, viz.: Irene J., born February 22, 1905; Gladys S., born December 11, 1907. In political faith Mr. Peterson is a Republican. He is a member of the Lutheran Church. He is a High Degree Mason, being a member of the Shrine, was secretary of Prairie Lodge No. 123, of Blooming Prairie, of which lodge he was secretary for three years, the Eastern Star, serving as secretary since it was organized, also member of the M. W. A. Mr. Peterson has taken an active interest in public affairs, serving four years as justice of the peace. He is now a city recorder and is also a member of the Commercial Club. On May 6, 1898, he became a member of Company G, Twelfth Regiment Minnesota National Guard. During the Spanish-American War he was stationed at Chickamauga, Ga., and Lexington, Ky. He was discharged with honor at New Ulm, Minn., November 6, 1898. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson reside on Fifth street. Mr. Peterson was instrumental in getting a franchise for the building of the city sewerage. He owns seventy-five acres of land in Dodge county which is used for the outlet of the city sewerage. During the time of the Boer War Mr. Peterson was engaged by the English government to buy horses in Montana. During the last five years he has been engaged in the buying and shipping of live stock. He is an enterprising business man and a good citizen, always interested in what may be for the upbuilding of his city and Steele county.

**Alex H. Fjeldstad**, a hustling and up-to-date business man of Blooming Prairie, Minn., is a native of Grand Meadow, Minn., his date of birth being May 23, 1873. A few years later his parents removed to Blair, Wis., and here he received his early education, completing this with a course in the high school of Alma, Wis., from which he was graduated in 1893. He then entered the pharmacy department of the Minnesota State University, receiving his diploma two years later, and immediately thereafter accepted employment in a drug store of Minneapolis in which he remained six years. Mr. Fjeldstad thence removed to Blooming Prairie, forming a co-partnership with A. Olson in his previous line of work. The firm has one of the best equipped and thoroughly modern drug stores in this section of the state, making a specialty of their prescription department, and also carrying a well selected line of paints, oils, wallpaper, china, silverware, stationery and the usual sundries. The Steele County Retail Druggists' Association, which he is serving as president, the Alumni Association of the Pharmacy Department of the



State University, also member Minnesota State Pharmaceutical Association, and the N. L. Y. P. S., of which he is treasurer, all number him as a loyal member of their various organizations. He is a stockholder in the Minnesota Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Company, of St. Paul, and in the American Druggists' Association, of Long Island City, N. Y. In politics he gives his allegiance to the Republican party, being a member of the Steele County Republican committee, and has served as village recorder four years, and clerk of the board of education three years, and was a delegate to the Minnesota Conservation and Agricultural Development Congress held March 16 to 19 of this year—1910. He is affiliated with the local Commercial Club as secretary, and with the Sons of Norway. Mr. Fjelstad is also a valued supporter of the Lutheran Church. May 21, 1902, at Minneapolis, he was married to Marie Olson, daughter of Mrs. Julia Olson. They have two children—Alvin A., born August 29, 1903, and Ralf A., born January 2, 1909. The family residence is on Hazel street. Andreas and Olive (Lee) Fjelstad, parents of our subject, were natives of Norway. Emigrating to America in 1866 they located at Sparta, Wis., the father being engaged for a time in railroad work and logging, and later entered into the mercantile business, first at Grand Meadow one and one-half years, then at Sparta two years, then at Blair, Wis., until 1893, where he remained until his retirement in 1893. He then removed to Minneapolis and died January 12, 1908. The mother still resides in Minneapolis.

**Edward C. Wolff** is one of the prosperous young farmers of Steele county. He is a native of Aurora township and conducts the farm in section 17 on which he was born March 22, 1885. He received his education at the district school and worked upon his father's farm until 1909. Since that time he has conducted the place himself. He is unmarried. His sister, Emma, keeps house for him. Politically Mr. Wolff is a Democrat and he is an adherent of the Lutheran Church. As a citizen, he is industrious and thrifty and well liked. Mr. and Mrs. Edward Wolff, the parents of Edward C. Wolff, were natives of Germany. In 1876 the mother died. It was in 1879 that the father migrated to America, purchasing 203 acres in section 17, Aurora township, Steele county, Minnesota. Here he continued to farm until 1909 when he retired from active life and removed to Owatonna where he is now located. The care of the farm was given over to his son, Edward C., who with the aid of his sister, Emma, now manages it.

**Phillip A. Reichstetter** is one of the substantial Minnesota farmers whose thrift is an asset in the development of the state. His home is in Aurora township, Steele county. Bohemia is his native land and May 1, 1858, the date of his birth. There



Phillip secured his education and continued to live with his parents until 1881, when he emigrated to America, settling in Steele county. It was not until 1886 that he made his first purchase of land in section 33 and then he bought only twenty acres. In the years since he has added to this by successive purchases in the same section of adjoining lands until today his farm comprises 140 acres. This tract is all under cultivation with a pleasant country home, barns and buildings. He was married March 2, 1885, to Theresia Ripka. They have six children—Mary, who is now Mrs. John Koasnicka, and Minnie, both living in Owatonna; Edward, Anna, Helen and Emil, living at home. Politically Mr. Reichstetter affiliates with the Democratic party and he is a member of the Catholic Church. He owns nine shares in the Oak Glen Creamery of Bixby. He is regarded as a good citizen in the community where he has lived for more than a quarter of a century. John Reichstetter and Theresia Fritscher, his wife, parents of Phillip Reichstetter, were natives of Bohemia, where their lives were spent. Both are deceased.

**Perry J. Rockwood**, a business man of Owatonna, was born February 22, 1877, at Owatonna. He received his early education in the public school and in the high school of that place, then after leaving school he took up and learned the meat market trade, which he has worked at and followed since sixteen years of age. December 23, 1902, he entered into the business, his first store being located on corner of Broadway and Cedar streets where he continued a flourishing business for a number of years. February 14, 1909, he formed a co-partnership with his brother. They handle all the produce that can be found in an up-to-date meat market. Their large and steadily increasing trade is due to their courteous manner and uncompromising honesty. They have enlarged their business and conduct two markets at this time, one at 119 North Cedar street and the other at 154 Bridge street. Mr. Rockwood was married June 24, 1903, at Owatonna, to Lillian Plummer. She was a school teacher, teaching four years in the district schools and three years in the public schools of Owatonna. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Rockwood is blessed with three children, viz.: Wayne P., born July 15, 1904; Dorothy, born February 28, 1907; Lorane A., born February 18, 1910. Mr. Rockwood is a Republican in politics. He worships at the Baptist Church. He is also prominent in fraternal circles, being a member of the K. of P., F. O. E., and the B. A. Y. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Rockwood is located at 239 Broadway.

**Hubert G. Rockwood** is a native born son of Minnesota, being born in Owatonna May 31, 1879, son of George W. and Emily (Gillitte) Rockwood, natives of New York state. The parents

immigrated west, first locating in Wisconsin; from there they came to Owatonna where the father engaged in the grocery business. Hubert G. received his early education in the public schools of Owatonna which was supplemented by a high school education. After leaving school he was engaged as a clerk in a general merchandise store for three years. In 1893 he went to Minneapolis, where he conducted a real estate business for two years. Leaving Minneapolis he came back to Owatonna and engaged in the hotel business, which he continued for two years. After this he was engaged in agricultural pursuits for two years. He later returned to Owatonna and bought an interest in the meat market business with his brother. The firm is now known as Rockwood Brothers. They have two markets and are doing a very extensive business. Mr. Rockwood is an independent voter and does not affiliate with any political party. He is a member of the F. O. E., and the K. of P. He served for some time as a member of the Company I, Second Regiment Minnesota National Guards.

**Herman Wolff** is a farmer living in Aurora township, Steele county. He owns 160 well cultivated and fertile acres in sections 7 and 18 of that township, on which he has built a new and modern dwelling with substantial barns and outbuildings. Stock raising and dairying largely engage his attention and he takes much pride in his Durham cattle and Percheron horses. Mr. Wolff is a native of Germany, where he was born April 6, 1872. He came to America with his father when he was seven years of age, locating in Steele county. Herman received his education at the district school and worked on his father's farm until 1896, then purchased the land on which he has since lived. He attends the Lutheran Church and politically is an independent voter. Our subject is much interested in good roads and has served as road overseer. Mr. Wolff owns stock in the Pratt Creamery. He is unmarried. Edward Wolff and his wife, the parents of Herman Wolff, were natives of Germany, where Mrs. Wolff died in 1876. In 1879, with his three children, the father emigrated to America and located in Steele county where he engaged in farming. In 1909 he retired from active life and now lives in Owatonna.

**Edwin Morton**, a prosperous citizen of Blooming Prairie, was born in Liverpool, England, July 1, 1849. He received his early education at St. Charles and later in a private school at Rochester, Minn. He received a business training of three years at St. Charles and in 1873 came to Blooming Prairie where he engaged in a hardware and implement business. Mr. Morton also owns a farm of 330 acres in Newray township, Freeborn county, where he makes a specialty of thoroughbred shorthorn cattle. August

20, 1873, Edwin Morton was united in marriage at St. Charles, to Mabel Johnson. They have three children—Mabel W., now Mrs. George Taylor, of Manterville, Dodge county; Grace E., now Mrs. Warren Carmen, of Blooming Prairie; George E., who works for his father at home. Mr. Morton is an active Republican, a member of the Presbyterian Church, served as mayor of Blooming Prairie for seven years, and again for four years, and is a Mason and a Shriner. He is a progressive and respected citizen, working to upbuild home industries. He has stock in the Blooming Prairie Creamery Company. George Morton and Elizabeth Sharpless, his wife, were natives of England. In 1849 they came to America, living for seven years in New York City. In 1856 they came to St. Charles, Minn., and engaged in farming. Mrs. Morton died in New Jersey in 1858, Mr. Morton surviving her until 1864.

**Dr. E. W. Cooley**, the well known physician and business man of Blooming Prairie, Minn., was born in Easton, N. H., March 17, 1860. He received his education in the public schools and in the New Hampton high school from which he was graduated in 1885. A complete course in the Burnett Medical College of Chicago completed his education, receiving his degree as a Doctor of Medicine and Surgery in 1887. In June of the same year he came to Blooming Prairie where he has ever since been engaged in the practice of his profession, enjoying a large clientage. Dr. Cooley is also a partner in a harness business, and also conducts a drug store, and is sole owner and manager of the Cooley opera house, a commodious and up-to-date two story brick structure which he erected in 1896. It is well located on Fourth street, having a large store on the ground floor, the theater and the doctor's office and residence taking up the second story. He is a stockholder in the Farmers' and Merchants' State Bank. In politics, the Democratic party has in him a stanch supporter. He has twice been a candidate for the state legislature, and has served his village twelve years as a councilman. Any enterprise that has for its object the good of the town or county is sure of his active sympathy. The Modern Woodmen of America and the Brotherhood of Yeomen claim him as a member. Alonzo and Emmeline (Wallace) Cooley, parents of our subject, were natives of New Hampshire where the father followed farming with much success till his decease in July, 1907. The mother died in December, 1908.

**Henry Lips**, one of the progressive farmers of Wheeling township, was born in Switzerland, March 23, 1855. He came to America with his parents in 1856 and attended the district schools of Wheeling during his boyhood. Leaving school he worked on his father's farm until 1876, when he purchased the place

where he continued to conduct a general farming business. In 1883 he married Amelia C. Schroeder. Ten children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Lips—Wesley is married and lives in South Dakota where he is engaged in the livery business; Lydia, now Mrs. Eugene Bailey, of South Dakota; Edward rents his father's farm; Benjamin works out; Ella died in infancy; Herbert, Arthur, Minnie, Esther and Emily remain at home, the three younger girls attending school. Mr. Lips is a Republican and a Methodist, a stockholder in the Farmers' State Bank and in the Farmers' Co-operative Creamery. He is one of the substantial citizens who have helped to make the Gopher state one of the greatest in the Union. Henry Lips and Elizabeth Bosshardt, his wife, parents of the subject of this sketch, were natives of Switzerland where they were farmers. Coming to America in 1856 they located in Wheeling township, Rice county, where Mr. Lips took a homestead of 160 acres in section 15 which he lived on and improved up to the time of his death in 1875. Mrs. Lips died in 1870. Charles and Rosa Schroeder, parents of Mrs. Lips, were natives of Germany, who came to America in the early sixties and located in Indiana, where Mr. Schroeder followed his blacksmithing trade up to the time of his death in 1901. Mrs. Schroeder still lives in Indiana.

**E. M. Twiford**, who has contributed much to the welfare and safety of Owatonna during his many years of service as chief of the fire department, was born in Pleasant Valley, Ohio, August 30, 1852, a son of Dr. Willis Twiford, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. At an early age he came to Somerset township, Steele county, with his parents, receiving his education in the district schools, and subsequently working on a farm until twenty-five years of age. He then came to Owatonna, acting as engineer for the Diamond Milling Company for a year and a half, after which he entered the hardware business with W. A. Dynes under the firm name of W. A. Dynes & Co., in which he remained until he opened the Fountain meat market a few years later which he conducted for two and a half years. Disposing of his interests here he embarked in the grocery business with D. W. Sperry, the firm being known as Twiford and Sperry, for eight years, when J. N. Niles purchased Mr. Sperry's interest. He remained in partnership with Mr. Twiford in the general mercantile line under the name of Twiford and Niles, five years. Mr. Twiford then entered the livery business in which he has ever since been engaged, operating alone as the Park livery for a time, and then formed his present partnership with N. P. Jefferson and Charles Green, the firm being known as Jefferson, Green and Twiford. They are doing a thriving general livery and transfer business. In politics he loyally adheres



to the Democratic party, and served as mayor two terms during 1893 and 1894. He has also ably filled the office of chief of the fire department many years. His fraternal affiliations are with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and the Modern Woodmen of America. He was married February 16, 1882, to Anna Howard, daughter of David Howard, of Geneva, Freeborn county, Minnesota. Three children have been born to them—Edna, a stenographer for the Great Northern Railroad at St. Paul; Guy, an attorney at Minot, N. D.; and Nettie, attending Carleton College of Northfield, Minn. The family are loyal attendants of the Universalist Church.

**James B. Gallea**, a prosperous farmer of Medford township, first saw the light of day in New York state, where he was born on September 28, 1854. James received his early education in the district schools of Clinton Falls township, and upon leaving school worked on his father's farm. In 1896 he bought 120 acres in Medford and later purchased forty more acres, upon which he has done a general farming business up to the present time. He was married in 1887 to Stella Tuttle, and four children have been given them—Evart, Ernest, Mae and Philo. Mr. Gallea is a Republican in politics and the family attends the Congregational Church. He has served and is still serving on the school board. William Gallea and Polly Gilbert, his wife, parents of James B. Gallea, were natives of New York state where Mr. Gallea was engaged in farming. They came to Wisconsin in 1859, where a general farming business was carried on for four years, after which they removed to Minnesota. Mr. Gallea took part in the Indian outbreak, after which he returned to his farm and lived there up to the time of his death on March 18, 1903. Mrs. Gallea still lives in Medford.

**George B. Gallea**, an up-to-date and progressive farmer of Clinton Falls township, Steele county, was born in that county November 23, 1872. After receiving his education in the district schools he engaged in farming with his father and now owns the old homestead, consisting of 250 acres of productive land, 200 of which is under cultivation. Much attention is devoted to dairying and stock raising, a large and well selected herd of Holstein cows supplying milk of the best quality to a near by creamery. Poland-China hogs are also a profitable factor. Modern machinery and buildings assist in the economical working of the farm, and at present the old barn, 40 x 50 feet, is being remodeled and a new barn of the latest type, 40 x 80 feet in dimensions, with concrete foundation and floor is being constructed. A fine brick house, built by the father, William Gallea, adds to the comfort of the family. In politics, our subject inclines toward



the tenets of the Republican party, but has never been an office-seeker. He was married in 1899 to Martha Rabey, daughter of Robert and Maria (Warren) Rabey, the father now engaged in farming in this state, formerly of New York. Mr. and Mrs. Gallea have two children—Robert Burton, born September 24, 1900; and William Donovan, born December 10, 1909. William and Polley (Gilbert) Gallea, parents of our subject, were born and raised in New York state, the father being a sailor in his younger days and a captain of a vessel on the Great Lakes. In 1863 he came to Steele county with his wife and family, settling on the farm now owned by his son, George. In the spring of 1864 he enlisted in the second Minnesota cavalry and remained in service until the close of the war. He then returned to his farm and conducted it until his death in 1899. The mother is still living with her children, enjoying a ripe old age. Ten children were born to them, eight of whom are still living.

**Ulrick C. Jansen** was born in Denmark January 2, 1849, he is a son of Ulrick Christianson and Anna Jansen, both natives of Denmark where they lived and died. Ulrick received his education in Denmark and came to America in the spring of 1871, locating in Freeborn county, Minnesota, and engaging in farming, in 1876 he purchased a 160 acre farm on section 19, in Summit township, Steele county, where he farmed for three years and then sold and went to Bath, Freeborn county, where he purchased 120 acres, and later he added to this 240 acres, making in all a farm of 360 acres where he followed general farming, dairying and stock raising until 1905, when he rented his farm and moved to Ellendale where he now lives retired from active work. He was married May 20, 1876, to Hannah Jensen, and nine children have blessed their home—Christ, of Bath, Freeborn county, Minnesota; Mary, now Mrs. Christ Thompson, of Geneva, Minn.; Emma, now Mrs. Gilbert Thorson, of Bath, Minn.; Arthur, of Nebraska; Carl, of Albert Lea; Helen, now Mrs. Walter Peterson, of Bath, Minn.; Annie, Nickoli and Hannah, all living at home. Mr. Jansen is a member of the Danish Lutheran Church, and in politics he is a Republican. He has served on the school boards for thirty-five years and is now clerk of the Ellendale village school board. He was very instrumental in the organization of the Ellendale Creamery and has been its president since its organization in 1893. He was one of the organizers of the Farmers' Elevator Company, of Ellendale, and has been the treasurer of the company since 1905, he is a stockholder and one of the directors of the Security State Bank of Ellendale. He served for one year as alderman of the village and is now the assessor, a position which he has held for the past three years. He lives at his pleasant home in Ellen-



MR. AND MRS. U. C. JANSEN



dale village where he enjoys the respect and confidence of all who know him. It was due to Mr. Jansen's efforts that the beautiful new brick school building was erected in Ellendale this year—1910.

**Erick Ellingson** was born in Berlin township, Steele county, Minnesota, on December 24, 1877, he is a son of Elling and Anna (Lee) Ellingson, and a brother of Elling E. Ellingson with whom he is conducting a general merchandise business at Ellendale under the firm name of Ellingson Brothers. Erick received his education at the public schools and attended the Grand Forks College at Grand Forks, N. D., and also attended Concorda College at Morehead, Minn. After leaving school he entered the store of his brother at Meckinock, N. D., for one and one-half years and then went to Roseau county, Minnesota, where, in the year 1900, he homesteaded 160 acres which he proved up and on which he remained until 1905, when he entered into co-partnership with his brother, Elling at Ellendale, Minn., and has continued in the business since that time. He was married December 31, 1901, to Miss Catherine Thoreson and five children have been born to them—Alma E., Irene T., Ernest M., Mildred L., and Carl J. Mr. Ellingson is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran Church, and in his political views he is a Socialist. He is a justice of the peace of Ellendale. He has succeeded by hard work and strict attention to business and is a good citizen, having won the confidence and respect of all who know him.

**Elling E. Ellingson** is a native of Minnesota, having been born in Fillmore county on September 15, 1868, he is a son of Elling and Anna (Lee) Ellingson, both natives of Norway, who came to America in 1868 and located in Fillmore county where they remained for one year and then came to Steele county and settled in Berlin township, and purchased 160 acres of land on which the village of Ellendale is now located. This was at the time wild land and Mr. Ellingson broke and subdued it, and followed general farming up to the time of his death which occurred May 3, 1896. The mother is still living. In 1899 the farm was sold for the townsite of Ellendale. Elling E. received his education in the district schools, and after leaving school followed farming until he was twenty-one years of age, and then went to Geneva and clerked for one year in a general store, and then to New Richland for six months, when he bought in with H. A. Midje in a general store at Cooleysville where he remained for six years and then sold his interest and in 1898 went to North Dakota where he conducted a general store at Meckinock for nearly three years, when, in 1900, he returned to Ellendale and entered into business with the Ellendale Mercantile Company and was connected with this company for a period of two years

when he sold his interest and went to Owatonna and clerked in a clothing house for six months to better acquaint himself with this line, and in the spring of 1904 he purchased the harness and shoe business of Frank Keycek and later added a full and up-to-date line of clothing and gents' furnishing goods and is now conducting both stores in company with his brother, Erick, whom he took into the firm as a partner in 1905, the firm name being Ellingson Brothers. Mr. Ellingson was married on June 22, 1898, to Emma Newgaard, and three children have been born to them—Earl A., born April 19, 1900; Arthur M., born November 15, 1901; and Marie E., born March 25, 1904. Mr. Ellingson is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran Church, and his political affiliations are with the Republican party. He is now serving as mayor of Ellendale, having been elected in 1909. Prior to his election as mayor he had served as city treasurer for two years and as city recorder for three years. He is a stock holder in the Farmers' Elevator Company and is also a stockholder and vice president of the Ellendale Rural Telephone Company. He is a good citizen respected by all who know him.

**H. A. Finch**, a retired farmer of Ellendale village, was born in Lewis county, New York, December 17, 1842, son of Apollos H. and Isabel (Searles) Finch, natives of New York state. The father died in 1845, and the mother in 1848. Horace received his early education at Fond du Lac, Wis., where he came in 1849. After leaving school in the year 1861, he joined the Union Army, Company G, Sixteenth Regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, as a private. In 1863 he was appointed sergeant, he served until August, 1865, having been engaged in the principal battles of the Civil War. He was discharged at Louisville, Ky., and mustered out at Madison, Wis. Returning to Fond du Lac he followed agricultural pursuits there until the fall of 1868, when he came to Steele county, locating in Berlin township on land he had purchased in 1865. This consisted of 160 acres of wild land in section 9. This land he broke and improved, erecting a home and a number of outbuildings thereon, changing the wilderness into a fertile farm. He carried on general and diversified farming successfully until 1910 when he rented the farm and moved to Ellendale where he now lives a retired life. Mr. Finch was married December 20, 1867, to Irene Hazen. The wife passed away in June, 1881, leaving six children, viz.: Herbert, Calvin, Minnie, who died with diphtheria in October, 1881; Fred, Myrtle, Caddie, who are all residing in the state of North Dakota. Mr. Finch married a second time May 23, 1883, to Miss Katie Davis. This union is blessed with four children, viz.: C. Ray, Hattie, Sedate and Horace, who are all residing at home. Mr. Finch is a Republican in political sentiment. The



family belongs to the Baptist and the Methodist Episcopal Church. He has served the community in a number of local offices such as chairman of the town board, town clerk and also on the school board. He has made his way in the world by hard work and industry, is a highly respected citizen well liked by a large number of friends and acquaintances.

**Carl R. Torgerson** is a native of Berlin township. Here he was born January 2, 1878, and attended the public schools during his boyhood. Later he took a course of study at the Valder Business College, of Decorah, Iowa, after which he was employed in the Security State Bank, of Ellendale. After several months he took a position with the Farmers' Elevator Company, of Ellendale, in which he still remains. Carl R. Torgerson was married April 27, 1904, to Tillie Johnson. They have one child, Burnett L., born June 22, 1907. Mr. Torgerson is a Republican, a member of the Lutheran Church and for three years was city treasurer. He is now serving the second year as city recorder. In 1902 he took up a homestead of 160 acres in North Dakota which he still owns. He is an active, respected citizen, interested in all that improves his home town. James Torgerson and Anna, his wife, parents of the subject of this sketch, were natives of Norway. They came to America in 1867, locating in Berlin township on a farm where he spent the remainder of his life. Here Mr. and Mrs. Torgerson reared a family of fourteen children—Torger, born September 12, 1868, died February 13, 1869; Carrie, born March 27, 1870, lives at home; John, born September 4, 1871, also lives at home; Regina, born December 13, 1872, died in infancy; Torger, born April 30, 1874, now at Albert Lea; Lewis, born April 25, 1876, now in South Dakota; Carl, born January 2, 1878; Bella, born November 7, 1879, now at Ellendale; Martin, born October 19, 1881, now in Iowa; Tilda, born October 11, 1883, now in Ellendale; Olei, born April 15, 1885, now in North Dakota; Agnes, born March 25, 1887, now in Ellendale; Josephine, born August 22, 1888, now in Blooming Prairie; Andrew, born March 7, 1890, now in North Dakota. Mr. Torgerson died August 3, 1905, on the home farm in Berlin township where his wife still lives.

**Wilson Bonnie Wardwell**, a native of Owatonna, was born May 29, 1885. Here "Bonnie" received his early education in the public schools and graduated from the high school in 1903. He then entered the employment of Netz and Vinton, druggists of Owatonna, remaining four years. After taking a year's course in the Department of Pharmacy at the State University, Mr. Wardwell purchased the drug business of C. J. Swedenburg at Ellendale, Sept. 23, 1908. Since taking control of this business Mr. Wardwell has met with marked success, keeping a pro-

gressive, up-to-date store and is one of Ellendale's most popular and prosperous young business men. Politically, he is an active Republican, and a member of the Masonic lodge. For nearly three years he served as a private in Company I, Second Regular M. N. G. of Owatonna. Interested in everything that promotes the welfare of his community, Mr. Wardwell has the merited respect of his fellow citizens. Homer E. Wardwell and Eliza Wilson, his wife, parents of the subject of this sketch, were natives of Black Earth, Dane county, Wisconsin. In 1871 they came to Minnesota, spending one year at Faribault. Coming to Owatonna in 1872, Mr. Wardwell engaged in blacksmithing, which trade he followed until 1903. Mr. and Mrs. Wardwell still live in Owatonna.

**Petter H. Hafdahl**, the well known blacksmith and wagon-maker of Merton, Steele county, was born at Trondhjem, Norway, May 25, 1857. His education was received in the Fatherland, acquiring a good knowledge of the blacksmith trade. At the age of nineteen, he emigrated to America, following his trade for a year in Lansing, Allamakee county, Iowa, and then in Goodhue county, remaining here two years, and then removing to Merton, where he still plies his trade as a blacksmith and wagon-maker, being known as a skillful workman. He is also the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres, nearly all under the plow, and makes a specialty of the breeding and raising of high grade Durham cattle and Percheron horses. In politics, he is a staunch Republican. During 1881 he was united in marriage with Ingebor Julseth, daughter of Thorsten T. Julseth, a native of Norway. Eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hafdahl, six of whom are living: Halvor, conducting the farm; Thorsten, a buttermaker, married Dora Brusvleten, and has one child, Irene; and Ada, Peder, Ingval and Martin all live at home. Halvor H. and Ingebor Anna Geving Hafdahl, parents of our subject, were natives of Norway, where the father carried on farming till his death, which occurred in 1898. The mother deceased in 1866. Fifteen children were born to them, nine of whom are living: Halvor, a farmer of Iowa; John, engaged in farming in Norway, Annie, married to Nils T. Julseth, a farmer of Norway; Halvor, who operates a farm in Goodhue county; Sivert, owner of a Dakota farm; Petter H., our subject; Dorthea, wife of John Sethnan, a Norwegian farmer; Halvor III. carries on farming operations in Norway; and Andrew conducts a farm in Rice county. The family attend the Lutheran church.

**Anton Kasper**, a prosperous farmer of Steele county, was born in Bohemia, 1855. At the age of nine years he emigrated to this country with his parents, who at once came to Minne-

sota and settled on a farm in Steele county. After receiving a somewhat meagre education in the neighboring district school, Anton engaged in farming, his practical knowledge of that line of work, acquired on his father's farm, standing him in good stead. His present farm in Somerset township of three hundred and thirty acres is ample evidence of his success. A hundred and eighty acres are under cultivation, the remainder yielding good returns as woodland and pasturage, dairying and stock raising being extensively carried on. A well selected herd of about forty Durham cattle supplies milk of the best quality to a nearby creamery. All buildings and equipment on the place are thoroughly up-to-date and well adapted for modern and economical farming. The Modern Woodmen of America and a Bohemian lodge count him a valued member. In 1878 he was married to Frances Simon, by whom he has had seven children: Jay, engaged in farming in Medford township; Louis, a farmer of Summit township; Otto, a bookkeeper of St. Paul; and Georgia, Blanche, Sidney and Charles, living at home. Joseph and Dortha Kasper, parents of Anton, left their native land, Bohemia, for the United States in 1864, immediately coming to Minnesota and settling on a rented farm in Aurora township, Steele county. Two years later, they removed to Somerset township, where the father remained engaged in farming until his death.

**Archibald Colquhoun**, retired farmer of Blooming Prairie village, was born at Toney River, Pictou county, Nova Scotia, Sept. 2, 1835. In 1856 Mr. Colquhoun decided to start agricultural operations, and accordingly came to Steele county and took up a quarter section in Summit township. In the meantime, however, he followed lumbering on the Chippewa river in Wisconsin, off and on, until 1862, when he again went back to Nova Scotia and spent one winter. He then came again to Steele county, and for many years carried on general farming. Mr. Colquhoun enlisted in the Union Army, Aug. 20, 1864, at Geneva, Minn., serving in Company D, Eleventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. He served in the legislature in 1873-74 and 1881-82. While in the legislature he favored having the cities of St. Paul, Minneapolis and Stillwater united in one Congressional district, an act which became a law in 1881. He has been a member of the board of his school district thirty-eight years, serving at various times as clerk and treasurer. He has been chairman of Blooming Prairie three years, assessor two years, town clerk one year, and road overseer several terms. He votes the Republican ticket, belongs to the James A. Goodwin Post, No. 81, G. A. R., and is a high degree Mason.

**Philip J. Kuntz, M. A.** The subject of this sketch was born in Dearborn county, Indiana, March 17, 1857, and has spent his

life so far in Indiana, Illinois and Minnesota. His early life was given to farm work, his father being a farmer, but since his maturity he has been engaged in educational work. He is a graduate of Hedding College, Abingdon, Ill., where the degree of Ph. B. was conferred upon him. His first years of teaching were in Indiana, the principal place being at Centerville, where his first wife rests in their beautiful cemetery. For seven years he was superintendent of the city schools at Aledo, Ill., from which place he came, in 1899, to Owatonna, Minn., where he has filled the position of superintendent since that date. Usually during the summer vacation Mr. Kuntz is called upon to conduct a summer training school for teachers, having been called or sent to several different parts of the state for that purpose. His successful experience as an educator, and his long service at Owatonna give him an enviable standing in the state. Mr. Kuntz has four daughters, one of whom graduated from Hamline University, St. Paul, in 1908, at which time he also completed his post-graduate course in absentia from the same institution, and when Miss Ada received her degree of B. A., the degree of M. A. was conferred upon him. Mr. Kuntz's special line has been in history and civics, in which he is at present doing special work. His success in his work must be in a great measure credited to Mrs. Kuntz, who is a lady of special ability along musical lines, and who was, before her marriage, a successful teacher. They have built themselves a comfortable little home in Owatonna, and have identified themselves with the various interests of the city, in which both take an active part. Prof. Kuntz was married in 1880 to Effie V. Smith, who died in January, 1890, leaving three daughters—Maggie, Ada and Irene. Later he married Amanda M. Wright, of Cambridge City, Ind., by whom he has one daughter, Lucile, at present a student in the high school. Miss Maggie works in her father's office; Miss Ada is a teacher, and a graduate of Hamline University, class of 1908, and Miss Irene is a trained nurse, at present night nurse in the City hospital, Owatonna. The parents of Prof. Kuntz came from Germany. The father, Milton Kuntz, came from Alsace-Lorraine to America in 1837. The mother came to America when twelve years of age, in 1840, and is still living in Dearborn county, Indiana.

**George R. Kinyon**, president of the First National Bank, of Owatonna, was born in Owatonna, May 31, 1861, son of the Hon. W. R. and Mettie G. Kinyon. His earlier education was obtained in the public schools of the city. When the Minnesota Academy (now Pillsbury Academy) was opened he entered that institution, being a member of the first class, graduating in June, 1880. The same spring he was appointed teller of the First National



Bank and in 1881 became assistant cashier. In 1882 he became cashier, and in 1903 was elected president, a position which he still holds with conservative progressiveness and much ability. Mr. Kinyon was married April 24, 1883, to Alice Louise Holt, daughter of Wilson and Abigail (Richmond) Holt, both natives of New York, the father being a prominent dry goods merchant, who, after living in Wisconsin for a time, came to Owatonna in 1877, and engaged in business. Mr. and Mrs. Holt are both deceased. The home of Mr. and Mrs. George R. Kinyon has been blessed with two sons. George R., Jr., died in infancy. Sidney W. attended the Owatonna public schools, graduated from Pillsbury Academy in 1905 and received his degree from Harvard University in 1909. He is now a vice-president of the First National Bank of Owatonna.

William E. Williams, a self-made and up-to-date farmer of Havana township, Steele county, is a native of this county, being born in Merton township, September 13, 1859. He received his education in the district schools near his home, supplementing this with a course in the Pillsbury Academy. After this he taught school until 1891, when he was elected to the office of county superintendent of schools, which he held for four years. In 1895 he purchased two hundred acres in Merton township, later adding a hundred and sixty acre tract to it, making three hundred and sixty acres, located in sections five and six. Here he followed general farming with success till 1909, when he purchased the George Chambers farm of two hundred acres in section twenty, Havana township. He has recently erected a new modern house on this property, which, with the well-kept farm buildings and fields, makes Mr. William's place one of the most attractive in the county. He is a believer in modern and progressive methods of agriculture and has always adhered to them. He is a stockholder of the Farmers' Elevator Company, of Owatonna. As to his political faith, he is a supporter of the Democratic party, and has served as chairman of supervisors of Merton township. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church. November 21, 1894, he was united in marriage with Margaret Chambers, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Chambers. They have four children: Paul, born November 13, 1895; George L., born June 5, 1899; William, whose date of birth is August 13, 1902; and Emma, who was born November 29, 1907. Paul Williams, father of our subject, was a native of Wales, while the mother, Ellen (Johnson) Williams, was born in Norway. They emigrated to America in 1855, locating on a claim of one hundred and sixty acres in Merton township, Steele county, Minnesota, being among the oldest pioneer settlers of this county and contributing much to its upbuilding.



They followed farming all their lives, the mother's death occurring January 3, 1890, and the father's, June 14, 1909.

**John Wavrin**, a well-known farmer of Steele county, his birthplace, was born July 9, 1865. After receiving an education in the district schools he at once engaged in farming, now owning a hundred and sixty acres of highly productive land, ninety acres of which is under cultivation. All modern improvements have been added by him, making the farm one of the most up-to-date in the county. Dairying is given much attention here, a fine herd of Holstein cows supplying milk of the best quality, which finds a ready market at the Pratt creamery, of which Mr. Wavrin is a stockholder. A large apple orchard, containing two hundred and forty-eight trees, contributes much to the income of the farm. The family lived in the old log cabin erected by Mr. Wavrin's father in the early days, until 1896, when a first-class modern dwelling was erected. In politics he is a staunch adherent of the Democratic party, and has served fourteen years on the town board of supervisors, the last twelve years in succession. The D. S. P. S. Lodge of Bohemian workmen counts him among its loyal members. He was married in 1890 to Josephine Belina, daughter of Anton and Frances Belina, by whom he has three children, William, John and Alice, all residing at home. Joseph and Pauline Wavrin, parents of John, were natives of Bohemia, coming to this country in 1863 and locating in Steele county, Minnesota, where the father followed farming till his death in 1890. The mother is still living in Merton township with her son Frank.

**Frank C. Webb**, one of Medford township's reliable citizens, was born in Wisconsin, November 23, 1850. He attended school in his native state until about fifteen years of age, when his parents came to Minnesota. Here Frank continued his education in the public schools of Medford township, and later took a business course in St. Paul. After leaving school he was employed by the firm of Lord Brothers, dealers in merchandise in Owatonna, for eight years. He then entered the same line of business for himself and continued in it about five years. Selling his mercantile interests, he took the agency of the American Express Company at Owatonna, which he held for three years. Mr. Webb then bought his father's farm in Medford, where he has since done a general farming and dairy business. His butter is disposed of to special customers in Owatonna. May 25, 1875, Frank C. Webb was united in marriage to Ella J. Sanborn, daughter of David and Frances Sanborn—an old English family who were among the first settlers of this county. Three children enriched the home of Mr. and Mrs. Webb—Mark D., Merritt and Charles P. Mrs. Webb died June 15, 1890. One year later, June 25, 1891, Mr. Webb was married to Myra F.

Hunkins, daughter of David C. and Wealthy A. Hunkins, formerly residents of New England and later of this county. Five children have been born to them—Mary B., Albert L., Mildred M., Frances W., Stanley H. Mr. Webb affiliates politically with the Republican party, is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is also identified with the I. O. O. F. and the K. of P. He has served as chairman of the town board for ten years and is clerk of the school board. Merritt Webb and Mary C. Putnam, his wife, parents of the subjects of this sketch, were natives of New York. In 1849 they came to Wisconsin, where they lived on a farm until 1864, when they came to the eastern part of the state, and in 1868 moved to Meriden township, where they farmed until 1869; then they moved to Medford township, and here they carried on a farm until 1887, when they retired from farm work and lived in Owatonna the remainder of their lives. Mr. Webb died in 1891; his wife survived him three years.

**H. G. Wilson** is a native of Merton township, where he was born November 1, 1867. He attended the public schools of Merton and later spent two years in the Owatonna high school. Leaving school, he followed farming until 1892, when he tried ranching in Montana for two years. Returning to Merton township, Mr. Wilson bought one hundred and sixty acres in section seven. He has since added to the original farm, having now two hundred and eighty acres, upon which he conducts a progressive farming business, paying special attention to raising Durham cattle. October 27, 1903, Mr. Wilson was married to Abbie Davis, daughter of Edward and Cynthia Davis, natives, the mother of New York and the father of Ireland. Mr. Davis came to America when fourteen years of age and lived in Wisconsin until 1856, when he came to Minnesota and settled in Meriden township, where he did general farming up to the time of his death in July, 1903. His wife died in 1886. Two sons have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Wilson—Glenn and Archie. Mr. Wilson is an active Republican, has served on the school board, and is a stockholder in the Merton creamery. W. H. Wilson and Mary Partridge, his wife, parents of H. G. Wilson, were natives, the mother of Nova Scotia and the father of New York. Mr. Wilson came to Wisconsin with his parents when two years old. In 1862 he came to Minnesota, located in Merton township, and bought eighty acres of land. About six months later he returned to Wisconsin and enlisted for the Civil War, remaining in the service one year. He then returned to his farm in Merton township, added more land to his original purchase, until he had in all four hundred acres under cultivation. In 1892 Mr. Wilson sold his farm and moved to Owatonna, where he and his wife have since lived a quiet, retired life.

**F. C. Wilson** conducts a general farm in Merton township. Here he was born June 21, 1876, and it has always been his home. He attended the district school and enjoyed a year at the Owatonna high school. Leaving school, he worked on his father's farm until 1903, when he received his share—one hundred and twenty acres—of the paternal estate. He soon added forty more acres to this by purchase. On this one hundred and sixty acres he has ever since carried on his agricultural pursuits. Holstein cattle are his particular pride. Mr. Wilson has recently built a new house and barn. He was married October 27, 1903, to Elsa Cabot, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Cabot, of Medford. In his political affiliations Mr. Wilson has always been a Republican, while in his religious ideas he is in sympathy with the Universalists. He has served on the town board three years and on the school board four years. Charles Wilson and his wife, Agnes Gibson, parents of F. C. Wilson, were natives, the father of England and the mother of Canada. Charles Wilson came to America with his parents when he was two years old. The family located in New York, staying there until he was nine years of age, when they removed to Wisconsin. In 1856, when he was twenty-one years old, Charles came to Minnesota and located on a homestead in Merton township. He sold this after a short time and bought one hundred and twenty acres in section eighteen. Later he added eighty more acres in section eight. Here he pursued farming until his death in 1901. He was a soldier in the Civil War, enlisting in Company C, Second Minnesota Cavalry, at the time of the Sioux Indian outbreak. He remained in service about nine months. Mrs. Wilson still lives on the old homestead.

**Henry N. Winship** was born in Owatonna on June 15, 1857. He is a son of Nathaniel and Emily P. (Moulton) Winship. Henry received his education in the public schools of Owatonna, and after leaving school worked for two years as clerk in a hotel for his father. He then worked as a clerk in the clothing store of John Shea, of Owatonna, until 1889, when he accepted a position with Hanauer, Kohn & Co., of Philadelphia, as a traveling salesman of clothing. He continued with them until 1896, when he accepted a similar position with Hart, Schaffner & Marx, clothing house, of New York, and has continued with them ever since. His territory includes Wisconsin, Minnesota, the two Dakotas and a part of Montana. Mr. Winship was married on October 5, 1886, at Medo, in Blue Earth county, to Cornelia Severson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Severson, the father of a prosperous farmer of Blue Earth county. Both parents are now deceased. Two children have blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Winship—F. Lewis, born December 24, 1888,

now a clerk in the clothing house of Leuthold & St. Clair, of Owatonna, and Lelah May, born May 1, 1891, died April 18, 1908. Mr. Winship is a member of the Congregationalist Church and his political affiliations are with the Democratic party. Both he and his wife are members of the B. A. Y. and of the U. C. T.

**Anton J. Zwiener** was born in Germany, March 16, 1846, son of Frank and Thresa Zwiener, natives of Germany. The parents emigrated to America in 1854, locating in New York state, where they remained for one year. In 1855 they removed to Milwaukee, Wis., where the father followed the trade of a cooper for three years. In 1858 they removed to Jefferson county and engaged in farming until 1876, when they moved to Steele county, Minnesota, where they purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Blooming Prairie township. The father continued to farm here until 1909, when he retired from active life. He still makes his home on the old homestead with his son, a brother of our subject. The mother passed away July 28, 1907. Anton received his early education in Germany. Leaving his native land with his parents on his eighth birthday, he attended the public schools after arriving in Wisconsin. In February, 1863, he enlisted in Company F, Twenty-ninth Regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He served until October, 1864, when he was honorably discharged on account of sickness. During his enrollment he was with his regiment in all its battles, the last being with Banks, on the Red river. In 1868 he engaged in farming in Winona county, where he remained for a period of six years. Then he farmed three years in Wisconsin. In 1878 he came to Blooming Prairie township and bought eighty acres of land. He erected a home, built outbuildings, and greatly improved the land, and has been engaged in general and diversified farming here ever since. He now has under construction a new modern house. Mr. Zwiener was married May 12, 1874, at Watertown, Wis., to Bertha Menzel. Nine children have blessed their home, viz.: Mary, now Mrs. James Feeney, of Minneapolis; Edward H., who died in infancy; Frank E., of Blooming Prairie; Lena, now Mrs. Carl Peterson, of Blooming Prairie village; Thresa, a bookkeeper in Portland, Ore.; Lawrence, who conducts a restaurant at Blooming Prairie; Edwin, George, and Raymond. Mr. Zwiener is Democratic in his political views. In religious faith he adheres to the Catholic Church. He served the township as clerk from 1881 to 1893, and was again elected in 1906 and is still serving. He was instrumental in the organization of the Union creamery, of which he is a stockholder. He is a highly respected citizen and has aided in the upbuilding of his community and Steele county.



**George M. Flinn**, one of the flourishing farmers of Medford township, first saw the light of day on March 8, 1860, in Nova Scotia. Here his boyhood was spent and his schooling obtained. In April, 1879, he heard the call of the new West, and, coming to Minnesota, located in Medford township, where for five years he was employed by others. At the end of that time Mr. Flinn purchased two hundred and ninety-eight fertile acres, which he has since cultivated and on which he has made his home. He pays special attention to Holstein cattle and Yorkshire swine. His wife was Alice Hankerson, to whom he was married in 1885. Mr. Flinn attends the Congregational Church, belongs to the Republican party, is a member of the K. of P., M. W. A., and has served on the town and school boards. Three sisters and three brothers shared his father's home with him: Ellen Congdon, who is dead; Mary Bergess, living in Connecticut; Sarah, who died in infancy; William; Everett R.; Herman A., who died in 1884. David and Sarah E. Flinn were the parents of George M. Flinn. The father was a native of Ireland and came to America in 1848. Mrs. Flinn was born in New Brunswick. They first located in Nova Scotia and lived there until 1886. In that year they moved to Minnesota, settling on a farm in Lyon county. Mr. David Flinn died there in 1899. His wife passed away in 1909. George O. and Eliza A. Hankerson were natives of Maine. They came to Minnesota in 1854, locating on a homestead in Medford township.

**W. H. King** was born in Lake county, Illinois, November 22, 1858. In 1866 he came to Minnesota with his parents, and received his early education in the district school of Merton township. Leaving school, he worked on the farm, and after his father's death he had charge of the farm, and has remained there, carrying on a general farming business. In 1891 his mother died, leaving him the owner of the home farm. During the same year he was married to Mary McDonald, daughter of Charles McDonald and Louise Daugherty, his wife. They have four children: Arthur E. and Marjory R., graduates of the high school at Owatonna; Mary L., attending the Owatonna high school; Florence V., attending the district school. Mr. King affiliates politically with the Democratic party, is a member of the Catholic Church and the Catholic Order of Foresters. He has been clerk of the school district twenty-two years, and a member of the town board of supervisors. He is also a stockholder in the Merton creamery and the Owatonna Farmers' Elevator Company. John King and Mary Bartley, his wife, parents of W. H. King, were natives of Ireland. They came to America at an early date, remaining in New York state for a time; then came to Illinois, where they carried on a farm until



1866, when they bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in section thirty, Merton township, where they conducted a general farming business. Mr. King died in 1869. His wife lived until 1891 on the home farm.

**H. A. Kruckeberg**, an extensive land owner and farmer of Steele county, was born in this county, January 13, 1880. After concluding a common school education in the district schools he assisted in the management of the home farm for a time, prior to commencing farming operations on his own account. He is now the owner of four hundred acres of productive land in Steele and Dodge counties, on which he was personally engaged in farming until 1909, when he rented the place and moved to Owatonna, purchasing his present residence at 928 South Cedar. He is expecting to return to the farm and assume charge within a few months. October 25, 1902, he was united in marriage with Amelia Behne, daughter of August and Maria Behne, natives of Germany and now engaged in farming in Aurora township, Steele county. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Kruckeberg, three of whom are living: Clarence, Leora and Ethel. George, born February 25, 1903, died July 25, 1903; Walter, his twin, deceased March 24, 1907; and Sloyd, born November 1, 1906, died in April, 1907. The family attends worship at the Lutheran Church. Fred and Sophia (Meyer) Kruckeberg, parents of our subject, came over from Germany in the early sixties, locating in New York two months, and then two years in Illinois. Removing to Minnesota, the father homesteaded a farm in Aurora township, Steele county, on which he followed general farming until his death, November 24, 1894, at the age of sixty-three years, being known as a first-class farmer and good neighbor. The mother passed away May 14, 1892. All their eleven children—Sophia, Henry, John, Fred, Wilhelmenia, Anna, Ernest, Ida, Lizzie, George, and Herman—are living.

**W. H. Kilty** was born in Stillwater, April 18, 1866. His parents, Timothy and Abigail (Cashman) Kilty, who were natives of County Cork, Ireland, came to this country in the year 1865 and located at Stillwater, where they lived up to the time of their death. Mr. Kilty received his education at the St. Michael Catholic School, after which he went into the hide business, traveling the country, buying hides, wool, etc, for Kilty Brothers, of Stillwater. He followed this business with success until 1897, whence he came to Owatonna, where he formed a partnership with Mr. Willett. Together they succeeded in establishing a flourishing business, which they continued until 1909, when they dissolved partnership, Mr. Willett conducting the hide part of the business and Mr. Kilty entering

into the rendering business, which he has conducted, laying hides and furs up to the present time. Mr. Kilty was married on January 11, 1893, to Miss Julia Frawley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Frawley, who are well-known prosperous farmers of Erin Prairie township, St. Croix county, Wisconsin. In his political views Mr. Kilty is a staunch Democrat, and is a member of the Catholic Church. He is also a member of the following orders: The Ancient Order of Hibernians, the Catholic Order of Foresters, the Knights of Columbus, and United Commercial Travelers.

**John J. Puetz**, local manager and grain buyer for the Big Diamond Milling Company, of Pratt, is a native of Wisconsin, having been born in the city of Milwaukee on November 27, 1870. John gained his early education in the district schools of Blue Earth county. Upon leaving school he took up railroad work in St. Paul with the St. Paul & Duluth Short Line, now the Northern Pacific, staying in this work from 1891 until 1895. During these four years he attended a night school in one of the business colleges of the city. Leaving his railroad work in the city, Mr. Puetz engaged in farming for two years, then for four years conducted a general merchandise business at Madison Lake, Minn. Selling out this business in 1907, he accepted a position as local manager and grain buyer for the Big Diamond Milling Company, at Pratt, Aurora township, which position he still maintains. On October 18, 1899, Mr. Puetz was united in marriage to Mary Mullerleile. They have three children—Nellie, born January 27, 1901; Irene M., born December 25, 1903, and Bernice J., born January 18, 1908. Mr. Puetz politically is a Democrat; is a member of the Catholic Church, and of the A. O. U. W. at Madison Lake. He served as village clerk for one year at Madison Lake, and was also a member of the village council for two terms. Mr. Puetz is a good citizen, respected by his community. Anton Puetz and Mary Scherkenbach, his wife, parents of John J. Puetz, were natives, respectively, of Germany and of Milwaukee, Wis. Anton Puetz came to America at seven years of age and located with his parents at Milwaukee. After receiving his education he learned the blacksmithing trade and was married to Miss Scherkenbach in Milwaukee in 1872. They then removed to Blue Earth county, Minnesota, and engaged in farming until 1895. He then sold his farm and went to Madison Lake, where he lived a retired life. His wife died in 1882.

**Cyrus M. Finch**, the well-known and respected merchant of Clinton Falls, Steele county, was born in Clinton county, New York, September 22, 1847. At an early age he came west to Steele county with his parents, receiving an education in the

district schools, and later engaged in farming, teaching school winters five years, and then devoted his entire attention to farming, until 1904, when he purchased the store at Clinton Falls, which he still conducts. A complete line of general merchandise is carried. In addition to his mercantile business he has a well-improved farm of a hundred and sixty acres, all under cultivation, with the exception of a few acres of pasturage. In politics he gives his allegiance to the Republican party and is an ardent advocate of the temperance cause. He is now serving as pathmaster of Clinton Falls, and he served a term as county commissioner several years ago. The Order of Yeomen numbers him among its loyal brethren. April 27, 1869, he was married to Martha Huston, a native of Wisconsin, and her parents of New York. They have four children: Maud S., a graduate of Pillsbury Academy and of the University of Minnesota, is principal of the high school at LeRoy, Minn.; Blanche Helen is the wife of Judson L. Day, a dentist at LeRoy, and has three children, Ruth, Laura and Eleanor; Walter J. is connected with a bank at Winona, Minn.; and Ruby is attending Carleton College. The family is prominent in the Baptist Church, the father serving as trustee and deacon. James M. and Minerva (Moses) Finch, parents of our subject, were natives of New York, the father being a surveyor. In 1855 they came west with other hardy pioneers and located in Steele county, where the father acquired a farm, dividing his attention between farming and surveying, acting as county surveyor. He was a War Democrat, and a deacon in the Baptist Church many years. He died in 1873 and his wife in 1879. Four children were born to them. Lucretia (deceased) was married to W. A. Williamson—Steele county's first marriage; Tyler B. is living at Henry, S. D.; Albert C. (deceased); and Cyrus M.

**William Ferrington** was born in New York state, November 15, 1856. He is a son of Abner E. and Caroline (Tabor) Ferrington, both natives of New York, who came west to Wisconsin in 1858 and engaged in farming until 1863, when they removed to West Concord, Minn., where they followed farming until 1867, when they came to Steele county and took a homestead in Blooming Prairie township and followed general farming until 1883, thence going to Redwood county, where they passed the remainder of their days. The father died August 23, 1891, and the mother died September 3, 1867. William received his education at the district schools and then took up farming with his father until he was twenty-three years of age. In 1882 he started out for himself and purchased an eighty-acre farm in Blooming Prairie township, section thirteen. He added to this until he had two hundred and sixty acres, but later sold

one hundred acres, and now has a quarter section of well-developed and well-tilled land upon which he follows general farming. He was married on March 16, 1880, to Addie Smith, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Smith. Mr. Smith was at that time a prominent farmer of Blooming Prairie township, now retired and living in Blooming Prairie village. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Ferrington: Luther R., a farmer, of Blooming Prairie township; Tabor W., Clarence, Olive B., William L., and Bessie A., all living at home. Mr. Ferrington is a Republican and a member of the Baptist Church, and also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. He served his township as a member of the board of supervisors for fourteen years and served on the school board from 1894 until 1909. He is now serving his second term of four years as county commissioner. He is a director of the Blooming Prairie Separator Creamery Company and is a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator, of Blooming Prairie. He is respected and esteemed by all who know him.

**Charles H. De Long**, marble and granite worker of Owatonna, was born in St. Lawrence county, New York state, October 18, 1862, son of Richard and Harriett De Long, natives of New York and Vermont, respectively. They emigrated west in their early days, locating at Owatonna township in 1865. Here the father bought one hundred and twenty acres of farm land and engaged in agricultural pursuits, which he followed up to the time of his decease, November, 1883. The mother is still living in Minneapolis. Charles received his early education in the district schools, which was supplemented by a course at Pillsbury Academy, Owatonna. After leaving school in 1884 he went to South Dakota, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, remaining there six years. He returned to Owatonna in 1891 and engaged in farming on the old homestead for a period of one year. He then engaged in the marble and granite industry, representing that business as a traveling salesman, which he continued to do for four years. Later he purchased the Owatonna Marble and Granite Works, also the Stone Marble Works. He is the sole owner and proprietor of this business and is conducting a very extensive and prosperous business. He has a number of men traveling, representing the firm in Minnesota and also in Iowa. He is also carrying on farming in connection with his business, having a farm of two hundred acres in Meriden township, where he carries on general and diversified farming. Mr. De Long was married April 27, 1896, at Pine Island, Goodhue county, Minnesota, to Mrs. Jane Wunderlich, of Cherry Grove. Their home is blessed with one child, Richard, born October 26, 1898. Mr. De Long is a Democrat in



politics. In religious faith he adheres to the Roman Catholic Church. He is a member of the M. W. A. and the U. C. T. The pleasant home of Mr. and Mrs. De Long is located at 112 East Vine street. Mr. De Long is an enterprising business man.

**Patrick J. Brennan** was for forty years a highly respected and prominent citizen of Owatonna, upon the affairs of which city he left his impress as a man of sound common sense and shrewd business intelligence. He was one of the familiar figures of Owatonna life and took an active interest in all local matters, being so well versed in the subject of municipal and public interests that his opinion was considered one of weight even outside of his large circle of acquaintances. Patrick J. Brennan was born in Waterford, Ireland, on St. Patrick's day, March 17, 1835. When fifteen years of age he crossed the ocean to the United States and landed in New York City, where he remained several years and received one year's schooling. From there he worked westward through Ohio, Wisconsin, Illinois and Minnesota. He then engaged in railroad contracting for himself, and laid many sections of roads in the western states. February 13, 1858, he was married at Beaver Dam, Wis., to Mary A. Quinn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Quinn, of that place. In 1866 he went to St. Paul and lived there some time, building railroads out of that city. The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway at that time was built as far south on this division as Faribault, and from that city Mr. Brennan was instructed to work south. Accordingly, he laid the section of track from Faribault to Owatonna. His associations in Owatonna were so pleasant and he was so favorably impressed with the city that he decided to move his family here. They arrived shortly afterward and have since maintained a family residence in this city. For many years Mr. Brennan enjoyed the reputation of being one of the oldest and most successful contractors of the Northwest and was identified with the construction of many of the leading systems. Six years before his death he retired from active work, having accumulated enough worldly wealth to live comfortably in his old age. His handsome home was erected where it now stands, and his later years proved to be ideal for a man of his age. Not only was Mr. Brennan closely associated with the welfare of Owatonna, but he was a liberal giver toward whatever interests would help Owatonna most, and this liberal policy stamped him as a true Irish-American gentleman—as a man of sterling quality, honest and true to his friends and kind to all. Mr. Brennan was loved by his family, and his taking away was a great shock to his bereaved wife and children. To Mrs. Brennan he was ever devoted, doing all he could to



make her home life pleasant. An unkind word never passed his lips for any member of his family, and he succeeded in making his immediate home happy at all times. To his children he was the same, and held the place a loving father should in their heart of hearts. Mr. Brennan was a Roman Catholic and contributed liberally to that cause. He voted the Democratic ticket, but, though often urged by his friends, never cared to accept public office. He was a popular member both of the Knights of Columbus and of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Brennan was made happy by the presence of seven children. Edward worked as a contractor with his father until January 7, 1907, when he died while on a visit to his mother in Owatonna, leaving to mourn his loss a widow and three children. Agnes Brennan was married to Terrence J. Lilly, November 9, 1886. To them were born six children, four of whom are living—Edward, George, Eugene and Richard. She died in November, 1901. Nellie Brennan was married to John C. Burke, of Owatonna. To them was born one child, Mary Elizabeth, who died at about the age of eight months. Mr. Burke died November 1, 1891. John W., Alice and Elizabeth, the fourth, fifth and sixth children, all died in infancy. Mary L. lives at home with her mother. Mr. Brennan died April 11, 1906, and his death caused universal mourning throughout the community in which he had occupied so important a place.

**Edward J. Brennan**, after giving promise of becoming one of the foremost railroad contractors of the Northwest, was diligently following in his father's footsteps when cut off by death, January 8, 1907. He was born at Beaver Dam, Wis., November 13, 1858. When he was seven years of age his parents moved to Owatonna, where Mr. Brennan made his home until his twenty-first birthday, at which time he went to work for his father, Patrick J. Brennan, assisting him in his large contract work in railroad construction. He was with his father for about eighteen years, and during that time a partnership was formed which lasted until the latter's death. Subsequent to that time E. J. Brennan followed the same line of work, and his success was most flattering. He engaged in building many railroads in the Northwest. His last contract was for the stretch of road between Albert Lea and Mankato. He was married November 15, 1887, to Jennie E. O'Toole, daughter of William and Anne O'Toole. This union was blessed with five children—Ruth, Edward and Robert, living; Mary and Agnes, deceased. Mr. Brennan's death left a vacancy in a wide circle of friends. He possessed those same qualities which were so prominent in his father, and during his boyhood days in Owatonna he achieved

a popularity among his companions which followed him until his lamented death.

**Fred Haberman** was born May 9, 1860, in Ceska, Trebova, Bohemia, where he received his early education. Coming to America with his parents in 1871, he attended the district school in Blooming Prairie township, and since has followed farming. June 21, 1883, Fred Haberman was united in marriage to Rosa Fisher. They have nine children, all living. Fred, a painter and carpenter, lives at home; William is in a nursery office at Clinton Falls; Anna, a dressmaker, at home; Libbie, Robert, Henry, Helen, Nora and Emily, also at home. Mr. Haberman is independent in politics, voting for men rather than party. He is a prosperous farmer, has extensively improved the one hundred and nineteen acres, most of which is under cultivation and meadow. He keeps full-blood Holstein cattle, Chester White and Poland-China hogs, and conducts a general farming and dairy business. Mr. Haberman is interested in all that helps in the progress of his community; was secretary of the Union creamery five years; has served two years on the town board; is school treasurer, and has been treasurer and secretary of the Cemetery Association for the past eight years. Wencil Haberman and Rose Stangler, his wife, parents of Fred Haberman, were natives of Bohemia, where he was a weaver. In 1871 they came to the United States, locating on the farm in Summit township where he spent the remainder of his life. Ten children were born to this couple, of whom five are living—Wencle, of Summit township; Jacob, of Blooming Prairie; Fred, the subject of this sketch; Rosie Seykora, of Brownsville, Minn.; and Theresa Wencil. Mr. Haberman died in 1893; his wife in 1905. Frank Fisher and Theresa Rehak, his wife, parents of Rosa Fisher, were natives of Bohemia, where they followed farming. About 1847 they came to America, locating in this county, where the mother died in 1887. Mr. Fisher survived until 1910.

**Orison M. Jones**, for many years a prominent and up-to-date farmer of Havana township, Steele county, was born in McHenry county, Illinois, April 18, 1853. At an early age he came to this county with his parents, who homesteaded a hundred and twenty acres in section nineteen of Havana township, and here he grew to manhood, acquiring his education in the crude district schools of those pioneer times. His school days over, he engaged in farming with his father, later coming into possession of the place. It then had only an old log house on it, but he gradually erected new buildings of the most approved type, planted trees, and added other improvements until he had one of the model farms of the county. He always gave much of his

time and attention to dairying, being a valued stockholder and supporter of the Havana creamery. In politics he was a loyal adherent of the Republican party, and, though he never sought public office, took an active part in all that tended toward the well-being of the community. The Modern Woodmen of America counted him a loyal member. December 31, 1877, he was married to Mary A. Morford, by whom he had four children. Ethel K., born February 7, 1884, is a school teacher at Owatonna, Minn.; William A., born October 4, 1885, conducts the old home farm; Alice, born December 27, 1889, a graduate of the State Normal School at Winona, is teaching; George H., born August 25, 1893, is a student at the Owatonna high school. The family attends the Baptist and Presbyterian churches. The death of Mr. Jones, which occurred December 24, 1907, was mourned by his family, to whom he was a kind and loving husband and father, and by the entire community, being universally esteemed and respected by all with whom he came in contact during a useful and noble life. Arad and Laura (Millard) Jones, parents of our subject, were among the early pioneers of Steele county, coming from Pennsylvania to McHenry county, Illinois, and later locating on their hundred and twenty acre farm in Havana township, in 1857, on which the father followed farming up to the time of his death. The mother is also deceased. Mrs. Orison M. Jones, daughter of J. W. Morford and Nancy M. (McNamara) Morford, comes of a long line of Scottish ancestors. She was born at Owatonna, May 24, 1857. Mr. and Mrs. Morford came to Owatonna township in 1856, the father taking up a claim, which he subsequently sold. Coming to Owatonna, he entered into a general mercantile business, in which he was engaged until his death, August 31, 1889. His wife passed away May 14, 1877. He was very prominent in the early business and political affairs of this city, having served as mayor and also many years as city treasurer. The Masonic order claimed him as a leading member, and owed much to him as an organizer of the Owatonna lodge. He ranked as a Mason of high degree, and was also affiliated with the Knights Templar.

**H. P. Clemmensen**, one of Summit township's most progressive farmers, is a native of Denmark, where he was born December 27, 1851, and remained until 1880, when he came to Albert Lea, Freeborn county. Here Mr. Clemmensen worked at the carpenter's trade for four years before removing to his present home farm, which comprises four hundred and eighty fertile acres, two hundred and fifty of which are under cultivation. Mr. Clemmensen believes in diversified farming, has a herd of Shorthorn cattle, and was one of the organizers of the Ellendale creamery, where he is a stockholder and sells his

cream. He was married to Hanna Nelson in 1877. Seven children, all living, have been given them—Hans, Emma, Harold, Dattlie, Lizzie, Walter and Richard. The last two named are still living at home. During the years that the Clemmensen family have been residents of Summit township the farm has been transformed from wild land to its present finely improved condition. Mr. Clemmensen has not neglected his duties as a citizen, serving as school clerk for eighteen years. He was one of the organizers of the Farmers' Elevator at Ellendale, and is still a stockholder. For eight years he has served on the town board and for four years has been chairman of the township. Politically he is a Republican. Clemmens Swensen and Christina Hansdatter, his wife, parents of H. P. Clemmensen, were natives of Denmark, where they lived and died. Mr. Swensen was a sailor.

George H. R. Brush, a progressive farmer of Clinton Falls township, Steele county, was born in Bath, Somersetshire, England, October 2, 1867. After receiving his early education in England, he emigrated to Canada at the age of sixteen, locating at Guelph and completing his education with a course of a year and a half in an agricultural college there. Leaving school, he engaged in farming four years, and then in 1888 removed to near Austin, Minn., where he carried on general farming until 1894. Moving to Long Prairie, Todd county, Minnesota, he continued farming operation for one year in this locality, subsequently going to Villard, Pope county, Minnesota, where he remained eight years. In 1905 he removed to Clinton Falls township, Steele county, and purchased his present farm of two hundred and fifty acres of highly productive land in section thirty-five. Mr. Brush now rents the place, but personally oversees it. In addition to general farming, dairying and stock raising are extensively engaged in. All that goes to make farming worth while is found here, a large modern house and a \$2,000 barn for scientific farming having been erected by Mr. Brush. His first barn, costing \$4,000, was totally destroyed by fire a few years ago. In politics he is an earnest Prohibitionist, but has never aspired to public office. In 1892 he was married to Lucy Jane Hickock, daughter of Harrison and Hannah (Herrington) Hickock. The father, a well-known farmer near Brownsdale, Minn., who is now deceased, was born at Troy, N. Y. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Brush: Annie and Lela, attending Pillsbury Academy; John, Verna, Audrey and Clifford, all living at home. Dr. John Ramsay Brush, father of George H. R. Brush, was born in the East Indies, on the island of Java. He was an officer in the British



army. Elizabeth (Dixon) Brush, the mother, was born in Tenberden, Kent, England.

**William Jensen** is a native-born son of Steele county. His natal appearance took place June 23, 1879, on the farm where he is now located, in section ten, Blooming Prairie township. He is a son of Carl A. Jensen and Hannah Nelson Jensen, natives of Denmark. The father was born in Denmark, January 13, 1850, and the mother August 2, 1850. The parents left the shores of their native land in 1877 and landed in America June 2. They located and remained for one year near Kasson, Minn. In 1878 they came to Steele county, locating in Blooming Prairie township, where the father purchased eighty acres of land in section ten. This land the father improved, erecting buildings on it, etc., and following agricultural pursuits up to the time of his decease, July 17, 1893. He left a widow and four children to mourn his loss, viz.: Christine, now Mrs. H. J. Bille, of Minneapolis, was born April 12, 1878; William, the subject of this sketch; Hilda was born February 13, 1881, died March 23, 1883; Hilda was born March 18, 1883, married Mr. A. L. Peterson, of Tagus, N. D.; Jens C., twin brother to the second Hilda, died November 5, 1887; Carl C., born July 27, 1888, is on the old homestead with our subject. William received his early education in the district schools and then took up the duties on the farm, where he has remained ever since. He is the manager of the farm and takes care of the aged mother. His brother Carl assists him with the work, and the two brothers have very successfully conducted and improved the farm since the death of their father. In 1895 they built an up-to-date and modern house and outbuildings. In 1899 they built a large new barn. William has served as road overseer, and is now serving as supervisor of the town committee. In his political views he is a Republican, thus following in the footsteps of his father. The family faith is that of the Danish Lutheran Church.

**John Malone**, a successful farmer of Merton township, was born in Racine county, Wisconsin, March 31, 1851. He gained his education at the district school in Merton township. Upon leaving school he followed farming. In the year 1880 he moved to Berlin township, purchasing two hundred and forty acres, and conducted a general farming business for twenty-four years. Mr. Malone then returned to Merton township, where he now owns four hundred and ten acres in sections twenty, twenty-nine and thirty-two. His home is in section twenty. In 1880 John Malone was united in marriage to Mary Lynch, daughter of Patrick Lynch and Ann Gaynor, natives of Ireland. They both died in this country. Nine children were born in the Malone home—Nellie, a teacher; Frank, who lives in Iowa;



William, Anna, Vincent, Raymond, Mabel, Leo, and Lucile, who still remain at home. Mr. Malone affiliates with the Democratic party and attends the Catholic Church. He has always been a progressive citizen, having served on the town board. He is at present the town treasurer and treasurer of the school board, and is treasurer and owns stock in the Merton Creamery Association. Patrick Malone and Julia Burke, his wife, parents of John Malone, are natives of Ireland. Patrick Malone was a farmer in Ireland, but emigrated to America about 1845, and located in Wisconsin, where he was married to Miss Burke. After farming in Wisconsin until 1856, he came to Minnesota and pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres in Merton township and traded a team of horses for another one hundred and sixty acres. Remaining on this splendid farm until 1895, he then disposed of it and moved to Owatonna, where he died in 1907 at the age of ninety-three. Mrs. Malone died at the age of seventy-seven years.

**Robert H. Reynolds**, one of Berlin township's most enterprising farmers, was born on June 12, 1843, in Pittsburg, Pa. He gained his early education in Wisconsin, coming to Minnesota with his parents in 1846, where he finished his studies. Robert remained on the home farm until twenty years of age. In August, 1862, he joined the Union army and was mustered in at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, Company E, Tenth Regular Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, as private, later being promoted to corporal. He served his country until August, 1865, being honorably discharged at Fort Snelling. Mr. Reynolds took part in all the battles with his regiment, never being away from it except three days during the entire service, when he was confined to the hospital. At the close of the war he returned to the home farm, remaining there for two years, then removing to Waseca county, where he rented a farm, which was conducted for three years. Purchasing eighty acres of land in section twenty-four, Berlin township, in 1876, Mr. Reynolds has since made this farm his home, making many splendid improvements. He has also added another eighty acres in Summit township, making him the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of fine land. The subject of this sketch was married on March 28, 1869, to Anna Corr, and five children bless their home—Frank, of Butte, Mont.; Fred, of Bitterroot Valley, Montana; Pearl, of Geneva, Minn., now Mrs. Peter Jensen; Edith, who lives at home, and Hazel, who is a school teacher. Mr. Reynolds affiliates with the Republican party. He is an honored member of the G. A. R. He owns stock in the Ellendale Creamery Association, in the Security State Bank, and in the Farmers' Elevator. Mr. Reynolds is a citizen respected by all who know him. Robert Reynolds and

Fannie, his wife, parents of Robert H. Reynolds, were natives of England, coming to America when very young, where they located in New York, going from there to Pittsburg, where he engaged as a merchant tailor. They remained in that city until 1846, going to Wisconsin in 1846, where they farmed until 1856. They then came to Steele county, where they farmed up to the time of his death in August, 1884. Mrs. Reynolds died in 1860.

**Frank G. Sloan**, a very progressive farmer of Berlin township, was born in Chautauqua county, New York, on November 10, 1855. He acquired his early education in district schools, this being supplemented with a course of study at Pillsbury Academy in Owatonna. Leaving school, Frank took a trip through Montana and South Dakota, taking up a claim of one hundred and sixty acres in Spink county, South Dakota, where he remained one year. Upon returning he took charge of the old home, to which he later added eighty acres adjoining it in Summit township. Mr. Sloan also owns another one hundred and sixty acre farm in Summit township. At the time Mr. Sloan took charge of the home farm it was heavily encumbered, but by his honest dealing, faithful attention and hard work he has brought his land into the highest state of cultivation. In 1896 he made improvements on the home farm by erecting a modern two-story home, also having a very promising apple orchard of over seven hundred trees, covering over seven acres of ground. He is a breeder of Holstein cattle, of which he owns a very select herd. Dairying is his chief pursuit on the farm. Mr. Sloan was married, June 1, 1886, to Etta Cusick, who died July 27, 1897, leaving five children—Grant, of Pratt, Kan.; Lyle, at home; Ernest and Alice, twins, both graduates of the Owatonna high school; Henry, now deceased. The subject is a follower of the Prohibition party and an attendant of the Methodist Church. He has served as chairman of Berlin township one year; is now serving as school treasurer of district sixty-seven; has been secretary of the Farmers' Elevator since September, 1904, at which date it was organized, and is vice-president of the Security State Bank of Ellendale. He was one of the promoters and organizers of the Ellendale Creamery Association, serving as its secretary since its organization in 1890. He is a splendid citizen, very public-spirited in regard to anything that helps his community. John M. Sloan and Eliza Barkley, his wife, parents of Frank G. Sloan, were natives of New York, migrating west in the spring of 1867, locating in Summit township. That same year they bought one hundred and sixty acres in section thirty-six, Berlin township. It was all wild land, but Mr. Sloan by the hardest toil cleared and broke the land and greatly improved it, carrying on a diversified farming business until he died, in





PETER P. THOMSEN AND FAMILY

April, 1882, his wife surviving him until October, 1898. John M. Sloan served in the legislature of 1874.

**Barnard Schafer**, a well-known farmer of Steele county, was born in New York, April 16, 1857. At the age of eight he emigrated west with his parents, who located at Red Wing, Minn., where he received his early education, completing it at Geneva, Minn. After leaving school he entered the meat business at Milbank, S. D., in which he remained seven years, with much success, and then removed to Steele county and engaged in farming, now owning two hundred and forty acres of well-improved land, practically all under cultivation, in Clinton Falls township. Holstein cattle and Percheron horses are a specialty. All modern improvements tending for ease and economy in farming are found here, and a commodious modern dwelling-house adds to the comfort of the family. In politics he adheres to the doctrines of the Republican party and is interested in all that pertains to the welfare of the community, though he has never aspired to office. He was married during July, 1882, to Mary Sahler, daughter of August Sahler. They have three children, all living at home—Walter, Elsie and Mabel. The family are loyal attendants of the Methodist Church, in which the father has served many years as a member of the board of trustees. Philip and Mary Schafer, parents of our subject, were natives of New York, the father being a butcher by trade before his emigration west, in 1865. He then located on a farm in Freeborn county, Minnesota, where he followed general farming up to the time of his death, in 1879. He was prominent in the Methodist Church, acting as Sunday-school superintendent, and in politics voted the Republican ticket. Nine children were born to him and his wife: J. M., a hide dealer of Owatonna; Elizabeth, wife of E. A. Keyes, of Excelsior, Minn.; N. J., a banker of Sheboygan, Mich.; Henry, in the hide business at Owatonna; Barnard, our subject; Kate, married to William Schaffer, of Milbank, S. D.; Mary, wife of E. H. Hines, a hardware merchant, of Renville, Minn.; George, a sheep rancher, of Belle Fourche, S. D.; and Anna, married to Dr. Bowers, of Riceville, Iowa. The mother passed away in 1902.

**Peter P. Thimsen**, one of the well-known and respected residents of Steele county, is a native of Schleswig-Holstein, Denmark, where he was born April 3, 1831. He received his early education in his native land and worked as a farmer until 1857, when he came to America and settled in Rock county, Wisconsin, following farming until 1862, when, in company with Ed. Darmady and mother, Patrick Fallon and wife and family, John Anderson and wife and family, and Nis P. Thimsen, his youngest brother, he made a trip to Minnesota by team. One sad circum-



stance marred that trip—when the mother of Ed Darmady died. The party was obliged to stop and bury her by the way. Of the sturdy and courageous pioneers who made that trip, only three are alive—Ed. Darmady, Nis Thimsen and Peter P. Thimsen. Arriving in Blooming Prairie township, the subject of this sketch took up eighty acres, built his own buildings, improved his land, and added to it until he owned four hundred acres. July 19, 1863, Mr. Thimsen was married to Julia A. Eichler, a native of Lafayette, Onondaga county, New York, born June 24, 1845. She came with her parents to this state, settling first at Geneva and later in Aurora township, where her people lived until after the war. Her father, John Eichler, was one of the oldest settlers. He served in the Union army from 1862 until 1864, and was discharged for disability, having been a prisoner in both Libby and Andersonville prisons. During the early days Mr. and Mrs. Thimsen took an active part in caring for the sick and needy. No disease was too contagious for them to nurse the afflicted one back to health and strength; and in case of death, no fear ever kept them from administering the last sad offices to the departed ones, taking the place of the undertaker, and sacrificing their own peace and comfort for the love of humanity. They were the parents of four children—Marion C., born June 10, 1864, now Mrs. Hans Johnson, of River Point, Minn.; Hattie F., born February 10, 1866, now Mrs. J. C. Peterson, of Blooming Prairie township; John F., born August 31, 1868, died April 13, 1909; Katharine M., born July 19, 1873. Besides the four children there are nineteen grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren, Mr. and Mrs. Thimsen living to see the fourth generation grow up around them. After many years, Mr. Thimsen sold eighty acres of his home farm, leaving three hundred and twenty acres which he still owns. He also has a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Summit township. In 1893 Mr. Thimsen retired from active farm life and purchased a home in Owatonna, where he has since lived, at 321 South Oak street. Mrs. Thimsen died September 20, 1904, since which time his daughter Katharine has kept house for him. He has always been a staunch Republican and a public-spirited citizen, having served his township as road overseer. He attends the Danish Lutheran Church. Nis Thimsen and Marion, his wife, parents of Peter P. Thimsen, were natives of Denmark, where they lived and died.

**Nis P. Thimsen**, a retired farmer of Blooming Prairie township, was born in Denmark, June 3, 1840. Following his school days he learned the tailor's trade, and after coming to America in 1861 he spent a year in Wisconsin. In 1862 he homesteaded eighty acres of land in Blooming Prairie township, Steele county.

The call for troops to put down the rebellion then being waged against the United States led him to enlist in 1863 in Company K, Second Minnesota Cavalry, serving until May 24, 1865, when he was honorably discharged at Fort Ripley for disability from injury. Returning home, Mr. Thimsen applied his energies to the cultivation and development of his farm acres, which increased to two hundred and forty in 1883. In 1893 he rented his farm property to his son, Ernest, and with his wife has since lived in retirement at Blooming Prairie village. He was married October 26, 1867, to Hannah Jensen. Three sons were born to them—Frederick, with the Blooming Prairie Mercantile Company; Nels, a physician at Hayfield; Ernest, who conducts the old farm. Mr. Thimsen is a Republican and an adherent of the Lutheran Church. In civil affairs he has always manifested a keen interest, having served on the town board as clerk and supervisor, and also on the school board. Ernest A. Thimsen, son of Nis Thimsen and Hannah Jensen, was born in Blooming Prairie township, December 20, 1873. He attended the district school, and in 1893 rented the splendid homestead of his father. Here he has since carried on general farming. On February 3, 1910, he was married to Hannah Nelson, of Bixby. Politically Mr. Thimsen is a Republican, and in his religious affiliations is a Lutheran. He also belongs to the Danish Brotherhood. As a citizen he is well liked.

**Martin M. Spurr**, a prosperous farmer of Berlin township, was born in the country of Denmark in 1867. Martin gained his education in his native land, coming to this country in 1887. He lived in St. Paul three years, and at the end of that time came to Berlin township, purchasing one hundred and twenty acres of fertile land, where he has lived ever since, carrying on a general diversified farming business. Mrs. Anna Thompson became his wife on July 17, 1891. Seven children have made happy the Spurr household—Emma, Marie, Olaus, Selmer, Alma, and Mae and Tedmore. Politically Mr. Spurr is a Democrat, and religiously affiliates with the Norwegian Lutheran Church, of which he has been a trustee for seven years, and is a member of the Danish Brotherhood. He is treasurer of school district No. 83; is now a stockholder in the Ellendale creamery, and also of the Farmers' Elevator & Milling Company, of Ellendale, and of the Farmers' Telephone Company, of which he was formerly a director. In 1909 Mr. Spurr was elected county commissioner. Mrs. Spurr's first husband, Mr. Thompson, died in 1887, leaving two children—Sena, now Mrs. Henry Langelie, of Turtle Lake, N. D., and Ole, a farmer in Berlin township. Thomas Spurr and Anna Martinson, his wife, parents of Mar-

tin M. Spurr, natives of Denmark, never left their home land, Mr. Spurr dying in 1901. Mrs. Spurr still lives in the old home.

**John Pichner**, for many years a prominent and respected citizen of Steele county, was born in Bohemia, January 6, 1844, coming to this country with his parents while still an infant. The education he received was very meager, there being practically no schools in those early pioneer days. At an early age he commenced assisting his father with the farm work, and when thirty-one years of age became the owner of his present two hundred and twenty-five acres of highly improved land, on which he has carried on general farming for the past forty-five years. It is located in Owatonna township, three and a half miles from Owatonna. Mr. Pichner is a staunch believer in up-to-date machinery and equipment, and his farm is a splendid example of what modern agriculture can accomplish. Two gasoline engines, furnishing ample power for various machinery, an elevator in the granary, and a stacker, of Mr. Pichner's own invention, make up a small part of the numerous devices for lessening labor. Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey swine are a specialty. The milk is sold to a nearby creamery, of which Mr. Pichner is a stockholder and was a director for seven years. For fifteen years he operated a J. I. Case threshing machine, owned by five neighbors and himself, with the help of his sons, during season; but it is now managed exclusively by his sons. In politics he adheres to the doctrines of the Democratic party and has been active in local affairs, having served many years as supervisor and town treasurer, and is now acting as pathmaster. Lodge No. 67 of the C. S. P. S. of Minnesota numbers him among its loyal members. In 1865 he was married to Rosie Jirousek, by whom he has six children—John, a farmer of Owatonna township; Annie, wife of Frank Spatenka, a farmer; Hattie, married to Joseph Stencel, engaged in farming in Havana township; Robert, married to Frances Marek, resides at Owatonna; Maggie, wife of Anton Ripka, a farmer of Owatonna township; and George, who assists in the management of the home farm. John S. and Paulina Hodinar Pichner, parents of our subject, emigrated from their native land (Bohemia) to America about 1850, locating in Illinois, where the father was engaged in railroad work for two years, receiving what was then good wages—fifty cents per day. In 1852 they came to Owatonna, then but a rough frontier post with one store and hotel. The country surrounding was a pathless wilderness infested with Indians, but they bravely ventured forth, blazing trees to mark their way, and located a claim in what is now Owatonna township. Cakes made from corn ground in a coffee-mill were often their only bread, the nearest market and mill for wheat being Hastings.

the trip necessitating a haul of sixty miles by oxen over mere trails—a stall in the mud every few miles being the regular thing. Two weeks was record time for the trip. They proved themselves true pioneers, patiently enduring these privations and living in a hay-roofed cabin with no floor between them and the ground. Indians were their only neighbors for miles. They lived, however, to see civilization gradually come to them, and to enjoy its comforts. Wenz and Anna Jirousek, parents of Mrs. Pichner, our subject's wife, were also pioneer settlers of Owatonna township, coming here shortly after the close of the Civil War. The father followed farming up to the time of his death. The mother has also passed to the Great Beyond.

**Captain Lewis G. Nelson**, now deceased, was one of those men whose death leaves a real vacancy in the community wherein they have lived. Of a staunch character and unswerving purpose, he attained success in life by his own efforts, and outdistanced many of his fellows who in youth had much wider advantages. Captain Nelson was a native of Norway, born May 9, 1841. He came to America when four years of age, with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gunder Nelson, who took up their home in Wisconsin. There their son Lewis G. attended the district schools, this being the only schooling he ever received. Remaining on the farm, he faithfully assisted his parents until reaching twenty years of age, when, in 1861, he enlisted in Company D, Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He was an actor in the battle at Island Number Ten, Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga, and those of the east Tennessee and Atlanta campaigns. He was shortly promoted to sergeant, and on his twenty-first birthday received his commission as first lieutenant. His superior officers were not long in discovering that he had talents and energy, and his services were called for in almost every department of the field. He commanded the roll of honor company under Rosecrans' plan for that distinction; was division commissary and adjutant; fifteen months quartermaster, and served some time on the brigade staff under Colonels Gibson and Martin. He was promoted to the rank of captain some months before his discharge on February 13, 1865. At the close of the war he returned to Wisconsin and engaged in the general merchandise business for four months. In the fall of 1865 he came to Minnesota, and during the following spring purchased a store at Kasson, in Dodge county, where he engaged in the general mercantile business until 1881, when he purchased a drug store in the same town. After eleven years of success in this business he came to Owatonna, in 1892, and opened a similar establishment here. In 1897 he formed a partnership with his brothers, under the name of the Nelson Mercantile



Company. The subject of this sketch was elected president and remained in this capacity until his lamented death, August 21, 1906. Aside from his military service, Captain Nelson attained distinction in civil office. He was register of deeds in Dodge county four years, engrossing clerk for the Minnesota legislature one year, member of the lower house of the Minnesota legislature one term, and member of the state board of equalization four years. He was a prominent member of Goodwin Post, G. A. R., and was also identified with the A. O. U. W., the Royal Arcanum, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Owatonna Commercial Club. Being a thoughtful reader, Captain Nelson possessed a vast fund of information, which served his purpose in life better than an extensive academic training would have done. Highly respected throughout the community, he was reckoned as one of Owatonna's most successful men. Coupled with business acumen he was a man of lovable disposition when with his friends, and proved a loyal companion, a true husband, and a devoted father. Captain Nelson was married at Kasson, Minn., to Etta Dibble, daughter of D. K. and Mary (Chase) Dibble, and to this union one daughter, Laura, and one son, Arthur, were born. The parents of Mrs. Nelson were among the earlier pioneers. They came from New York, their native state, in 1857, and purchased a farm in Dodge county, this state, where they engaged in agricultural pursuits. In 1874 Mr. Dibble was elected treasurer of Dodge county, and four years later, after retiring from office, served his successor one year as assistant. He then returned to the farm until 1900, when he retired and moved to Owatonna, where he now resides. His wife died January 23, 1901, at Owatonna.

**R. R. Carpenter** on April 10, 1874, was born on the same farm in Merton township on which he now lives. His education was obtained in the district school, supplemented by study at the Owatonna High School and Pillsbury Academy. After leaving school he busied himself on the farm with his father. Mr. Carpenter was a clerk in an Owatonna business house for a number of years and then took up land in North Dakota under the homestead law. Here he lived about five years. At the end of this time, returning to Owatonna, he engaged in the sale of cream separators for about two years. One year was spent at Brook Park, Minn. In the fall of 1908 Mr. Carpenter rented his father's farm in Merton township. He now owns one hundred and sixty acres and rents two hundred acres. Miss Laura A. Cotter became his wife in 1908. Mr. Carpenter has two brothers, Bert W. and Walter W., both living in Minneapolis, and two sisters, Alice and Mabel. Mr. Carpenter is a Universalist in his church preferences and a Republican in politics, and also a



member of the K. of P. lodge. Asa Carpenter and his wife, Marion L. Wilkins, parents of R. R. Carpenter, were natives of Vermont. They moved on to the western frontier in 1856, first settling in Wisconsin and then in Minnesota. Mr. Carpenter bought land in Merton township and here continued to farm until 1904. Since that time Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter have lived a retired life in Owatonna.

**Gustavus F. Cardoff**, a prominent land owner and farmer of Clinton Falls township, was born in Germany, December 12, 1865, passing his boyhood in Chicago and acquiring his education in the night schools, completing with a course in the Curtis Business College of St. Paul. In 1887 he came to Steele county, purchased three hundred and twenty acres in Clinton Falls township, and commenced farming operations. Eight years later he bought another quarter section, now owning four hundred and eighty acres of highly productive land, all in Clinton Falls township. In addition to general farming, Mr. Cardoff has made a signal success of dairying and stock raising, being the owner of one of the finest herds of thoroughbred Holstein cattle in the state. Poland-China hogs were formerly raised, but he has found Duroc-Jerseys a better paying proposition and now gives his attention to them. All modern buildings and machinery conducive to up-to-date agriculture are used. In politics he is a staunch Republican, chairman of the county committee, and has served on the state central committee. Though never an aspirant to office, he is one of the pillars of his party. The Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America count him a loyal brother. In 1891 he was married to Fanny E. Hastings, daughter of H. M. Hastings. They have four children—Bessie A., attending high school; Niel H., died in 1895; Earl F., and Thomas H. David H. and Mary H. (Schmidt) Cardoff, parents of our subject, were natives of Germany, where the father was a shipbuilder by trade. Coming to this country in the early sixties, he located at Elgin, Ill., following his trade as a carpenter until his death, in 1869. The mother died in 1871. Four children were born to them—David H., deceased; Ida, living in Germany; Gustavus F., our subject; and Mary E., wife of G. W. Brandon, of St. Paul.

**L. S. Taylor**, an enterprising Merton township farmer, was born here November 17, 1873, and received his primary education in the district schools, following which he spent two years at Pillsbury Academy. Leaving school, he worked as butter-maker in the creameries of Mankato and Glenville for eleven years, after which he sold creamery supplies on the road for three years. He then bought one hundred and sixty acres of his father's land in Merton township, where he has since conducted

general farming, with a special interest in Holstein cattle, which his father first introduced into this state. In November, 1897, Mr. Taylor married Bertha Young, daughter of James Young and Ellen Wilson, his wife. They have one son, Angus, who is still at home. Mr. Taylor is a Republican in politics, has been associated with the K. of P. order, and also with the M. W. A. He is a member of the school board in district fifteen and a stockholder in the Merton creamery. E. P. Taylor and Ellen Hulett, his wife, parents of L. S. Taylor, were natives, respectively, of Massachusetts and Wisconsin. Coming to Minnesota in 1857, they pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land in section five, Merton township, where Mr. Taylor built a home and cultivated and improved his land until the outbreak of the Civil War. He then enlisted in the Tenth Minnesota, in which he served for three years, was discharged for disability, and returned to his home in Merton township. He soon bought one hundred and sixty acres in section five and later one hundred and sixty acres in Richland township, Rice county, giving him a farm of three hundred and twenty acres, which he continued to improve and cultivate until 1898, when he gave up active farming, rented the farm, and moved to Owatonna, where he and his wife now live.

**A. J. Young**, a native of Merton township, where he is now a thriving farmer, was born October 5, 1872. His education, begun at the district school, was supplemented by four years of study at Pillsbury Academy, Owatonna. Leaving school, he has ever since engaged in farming. In 1898 Mr. Young rented his father's farm, on which from that time he has been busy in tilling the soil and caring for his live stock. His especial interest is in Holstein cattle and Percheron horses. He was married to Lydia Greeley, daughter of James and Amelia Ribstein Greeley, in 1898. Three children bless their home—Clarence, Jay, and Loleita. A Republican in politics and an attendant of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Mr. Young has been active in local affairs, serving as treasurer of the school district for a number of years, and also as township road overseer. He owns stock in and is a director of Merton creamery, and is also director and stockholder of the Merton Rural Telephone Company. James R. Young and his wife, Ellen Wilson, parents of A. J. Young, came to Minnesota in 1861 and located on a homestead claim of one hundred and sixty acres in Merton township. Mr. Young was a native of New York, while his wife was born in England. In 1863 he enlisted as a soldier in the Civil War, in Company C, Second Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the rebellion, when he was honorably discharged. Re-

turning home, he worked on his farm until 1898, when he moved to Owatonna, where with his wife he still lives.

**Edwin H. Naylor**, a farmer of Steele county, was born on the farm he now occupies, December 25, 1868. His education was received in the district schools, after which he assisted his father on the farm, and, in 1908, he became its owner. He now has two hundred and sixty acres of fine tillable land, on which he still follows general farming, with marked success. His place is known as the Burr Oak Stock Farm, Mr. Naylor devoting much attention to stock raising, and having about sixty acres of fine pasturage. Shorthorn and Durham cattle, all thoroughbred, and high graded swine are raised. At one time he made a specialty of Poland China hogs, but has largely discontinued them. His milk finds a ready market at the nearest creamery, of which he is a director. In political convictions he is a Republican and is now serving as a county commissioner—his term expiring in 1912—and as a member of the school board. In 1897 he was united in marriage with Jeanette Case, daughter of Phelps Case, a prominent citizen of this county. Mr. and Mrs. Naylor have no children. They are loyal attendants of the Congregational Church of Owatonna. Edward and Marian (Hunter) Naylor, parents of our subject, were respectively natives of England and Canada. The father came over about the year 1850, and after a short stay in Illinois removed to Steele county, and homesteaded the hundred and sixty acres on which his son is now engaged in farming with his other hundred. He built the first creamery in his locality, and added many of the modern improvements now on the place. He is at present living retired at Owatonna, with his residence on Pearl street.

**Harvey Stockwell** was born September 4, 1862, in Merton township, Steele county. After receiving his education he engaged in farming for several years. In 1890 he moved to Owatonna, and resided there two years. Then he moved to West Concord, and engaged in the hardware, farm implements, pump and wind mill business. In 1896 he sold out and purchased a farm in the township of Clinton Falls, where he resides at the present time.

**Herman W. Borchert**, deceased, was born in Manitowoc County, Wisconsin, May 22, 1865. Here he received his early education in the district schools, after which he engaged in farming. In 1884 Mr. Borchert started in the farming business for himself on the old homestead, on sections three and ten in Blooming Prairie township. The farm comprised three hundred and twenty acres of land, which he worked diligently along progressive lines to improve. The buildings and machinery were brought to date and the farm conducted according to the

most approved methods. December 6, 1887, at the house of the bride's parents, Herman W. Borchert was married to Mally Vaith. Mr. Borchert served the community in which he lived on the town board of supervisors and as an officer of district school No. 47, and was connected with the Union Creamery Association and Oak Glen Creamery Association of Bixby. Politically, he was a Republican and a staunch member of the Lutheran Church. His death, August 8, 1900, was a severe blow to his family. He is survived by his wife and four children—Frank, born September 21, 1888; August, born May 17, 1891; Ida, born June 12, 1895; Fred, born August 29, 1898. Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Borchert has shown exceptional ability in keeping up the farm with the same standard of excellence attained by Mr. Borchert. In this effort she is ably assisted by her eldest sons, Frank and August, who are capable, honorable young men, highly respected by the community. August Borchert and Rosa, his wife, parents of Herman W. Borchert, came from Germany to America in 1830 and first located in Wisconsin. Coming to Minnesota in 1870, he purchased a farm in Somerset township, where he lived several years, gave the farm to his son, August, who still conducts it, and bought three hundred and twenty acres of wild land in Blooming Prairie township, which he broke and improved, carrying on a diversified farming business until 1884, when he gave the farm to his son, Herman W., and retiring from active work, spent the remainder of his life in Owatonna. He died September 25, 1893. She died September 29, 1899. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Vaith, parents of Mrs. Borchert, were prominent farmers of Summit township, where Mr. Vaith died in September 21, 1907. Mrs. Vaith died in February 14, 1909.

**Edward Darmody**, clerk of Summit township, is one of the distinguished citizens of Steele county, and has served his fellow citizens ably in various positions of public and private trust and honor. He has gained the implicit confidence of all who know him, and is honored as a good citizen, a loyal neighbor and an efficient official. The subject of this sketch was born in County Tipperary, Ireland, November 4, 1845. He came with his parents, Michael and Bridget (Dunn) Darmody, to America in 1848, and spent his boyhood in Rock county, Wisconsin. In 1862 the family decided to come to Minnesota, but Mrs. Darmody died on the way, June 20, 1862, and was buried at Spring Valley cemetery. This trip was made by team. In this party were the Darmodys, Patrick Fallon and family, John Anderson and family, Peter P. Thimsen and Nis Thimsen. Of these the only survivors are: Edward Darmody, Peter P. and Nis Thimsen. Michael Darmody purchased one hundred and sixty acres of



land in Summit township, section ten, but died in November, 1866. Since his death Edward has successfully conducted this farm, and has added to it from time to time until he now owns five hundred acres of highly improved land, on which he has made improvements. He is a fancier of Red Polled cattle, and at the present time owns a splendid herd of over one hundred head. A Democrat in politics, he has served his township as chairman, assessor, town clerk and as clerk of school district No. 51. He was treasurer of the Summit Creamery from the organization until 1908. Mr. Darmody was married to Mary Welsh, who died in February, 1894, being survived by nine of their eleven children—Mrs. P. H. Tracy, of Austin; Nellie, Bridget, Michael, Thomas, Margaret, Elizabeth, Mary and Alice (Edward and Agnes deceased).

**John J. Morrison**, manager of the Summit creamery, is one of the popular men of the county, and the excellence of the butter which the creamery produces has caused him to stand high among the butter-makers of this section. He was born in Vermont, February 5, 1856, and a year later was brought by his parents to Newry, Freeborn county, this state. He there received an excellent common school education and then attended the Austin High School. Subsequently he taught school with much success for seventeen terms. Then he learned the butter-maker's trade, which he has since followed. He assumed his present position in the spring of 1910. Mr. Morrison was married September 21, 1898, to Mary Langan, and to this union have been born four children—Anna, born March 25, 1901; Sylvester, born November 27, 1902; Katherine, born January 29, 1906, and Margaret, August 12, 1908. While at Newry he was assessor and school clerk. He is an independent voter, is a faithful member of the Catholic Church, and affiliates with the C. O. F. and the K. of C. James and Honora (Curtin) Morrison, parents of John J. Morrison, were born in Ireland, lived for a time in Vermont and settled in Newry, Freeborn county, in 1857. The father there engaged in farming until his death in 1872. The mother remained on the old homestead until her death in 1904.

**Hynds Family.** Thomas and Margaret (Hill) Hynds were both natives of the Keystone state, of Irish descent. They left their native state and located in Illinois at a very early day, coming to Minnesota in 1857. They lived in Freeborn county, and in Faribault county for a time, and in 1874 came to Steele county. Both are now deceased. In their family were two sons and four daughters. John and Thomas are farmers in Summit township; Annie is Mrs. Bert Loomis, of Wells, Minn.; Mary Jane is Mrs. Foster Loomis, of Owatonna; Harriett is now Mrs. Alva Henion; Isabelle keeps house for her brothers. The



family faith is that of the Universalist Church. John Hynds was born in Ogle county, Illinois, August 4, 1856, and Thomas was born in Geneva, Freeborn county, Minnesota, December 22, 1858. After receiving their respective educations they took up farming, and in 1876 purchased two hundred and fifty acres of land in Summit township. On this they erected the buildings, and brought the land to a high state of cultivation. They now carry on general farming under the name of the Hynds Brothers, and are among the leading agriculturalists of the county, following the latest and most approved modern methods. Thomas served the township as chairman of the board of supervisors for twelve years and then resigned.

**Elmer E. McFall** is one of the representative citizens of the county, and has combined the sterling qualities of his Pennsylvanian birth with the expansiveness and progress of the west. He was born during the stirring days of the Civil War, in McKean county, Pennsylvania, March 23, 1863, and was brought to Steele county as an infant in the fall of the same year. He received his education in the district schools, and then took up farming. In 1892 he purchased eighty acres of land in section seventeen, Summit township, built a home, made many improvements and brought his place to a fine stage of modern development and improvement. He is a staunch Republican in politics, and a supporter of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was married January 1, 1901, to Syble Hersey, born in Lemond township March 18, 1867, daughter of Charles G. and Narcissa D. Bush Hersey. To this union has been born one daughter, Esther L., December 14, 1901. Chester and Phoebe (Gerlick) McFall, parents of Elmer E. McFall, came to Steele county in the fall of 1863, from Pennsylvania, and engaged in farming, the father dying April 8, 1901, and the mother August 21, 1898. Charles G. and Narcissa D. (Bush) Hersey, parents of Mrs. Elmer E. McFall, were natives respectively of Maine and Connecticut. They came west in the spring of 1864, purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Lemond township, and farmed the remainder of their lives, the father dying June 18, 1900, and the mother June 18, 1882.

**Peter Jensen**, a farmer of Summit township, has worked his way up in the world by hard work and frugality, and well deserves the success he has achieved. He was born December 21, 1852, in Denmark, son of Jens Petersen, who is still living in the old country. In 1872 he landed in America with just \$2.00 in his pocket. He found his way to Geneva, in Freeborn county, this state, and worked as farm hand there until 1877, when he came to Steele county, and out of his savings purchased sixty acres in section thirty-six. Later he purchased eighty acres

and still later forty acres more in section twenty-five, making a fine farm on which he conducts general agricultural operations. He also buys and sells cattle and has a fine herd of Shorthorns. He is a member of the Lutheran Church and has served as clerk of school district No. 56, being in politics a staunch Republican. Mr. Jensen was married March 17, 1878, to Mary Jensen, and this union has been blessed with five children—Lillie, Henry, Edward, William and Hannah.

**Joseph Soufal**, retired farmer of Aurora township, was born in Germany November 25, 1842, and came to America in 1881. He located in Aurora township in 1890 and purchased a farm of one hundred and fifty-five acres in section twenty-one, where he erected his home and buildings, and followed general farming until 1910, when he rented the place to his son Philip, but still resides on the farm. He is a member of the Holy Trinity Church and owns stock in the Oak Glen creamery. He is a Democrat in politics, but has never sought public office. Mr. Soufal was married in 1875 to Anna Reichsteter, and to this union have been born five children—Anton, of the firm of Kasper & Co., Owatonna; Joseph, engaged in the meat business in Butterfield; Philip, who conducts the old farm; Edward, who lives in Butterfield; and Mary, who lives at home.

**Philip Soufal**, one of the younger farmers of Steele county, was born January 5, 1883, in Aurora township, where he still resides. He received his education in the schools of his neighborhood and worked on his father's farm until 1910, when he took charge of the place. He now successfully follows general farming, making a specialty of dairying and grain raising, his Durham and Holstein cattle being of a fine breed and well cared for. He also breeds a few Percheron horses. Mr. Soufal votes the Democratic ticket, attends the Catholic Church and is well liked by his associates.

**E. S. Tuthill**, one of the most substantial farmers of Meriden township, was born there July 29, 1861. He studied at the district school and afterwards at Minnesota Academy. He also took a business course at Owatonna. After a year on his aunt's farm Mr. Tuthill homesteaded land in South Dakota and devoted the next thirteen years of his life to general farming and stock raising. Selling his Dakota holdings at the end of that time and returning to Steele county, he bought several farms in Meriden township, until he now owns five hundred and seventy-one acres. He carries on a very successful farm and pays much attention to stock raising, his Hereford cattle being his special pride. Mr. Tuthill was married in 1882 to Emma L. Andrews, daughter of Robert Andrews and Louisa Andrews. Two children blessed this union—Bessie Halvorsen and John R., who

both live at home. In May, 1906, Mr. Tuthill was married to Ella B. Andrews, the sister of his first wife. The only child by this marriage is one son, Thomas. E. S. Tuthill is a Republican in politics, a member of the M. W. A. and the A. O. A. of Owatonna. He has also been one of the school board. John O. Tuthill and Anne S. Green, his wife, parents of E. S. Tuthill, were natives of New York. Moving west, they settled in Wisconsin, remaining there until 1856, when coming to Minnesota they located in Meriden township. Mr. Tuthill kept busy improving his farm until he enlisted during the Civil War in 1862, in Company I, Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. His death at Memphis, Tenn., in 1864, was the result of exposure in camp life and on the field. The mother, who remarried and is now Mrs. Powell, lives in Owatonna.

**Henry O. Ruen**, a progressive farmer of Steele county, was born in Winnishiek county, Iowa, July 31, 1864. His early education was received in the district schools, and in practical matters on his father's farm. After school he assisted on the home farm for a time, and then engaged in farming for himself, purchasing his present farm of a hundred and sixty acres in Steele county, in 1891, and moving onto it the following year. The farm is now mostly under cultivation and by hard work and modern farming methods has been developed to a high state of productiveness. The buildings and machinery are of the latest patterns, well adapted for economical farming. Holstein cattle, Poland China hogs and high bred Norman horses are successfully raised. In politics, he votes independent of party, endeavoring to pick the man best qualified for the office. He has served as supervisor and in other town offices. May 25, 1897, he was married to Caroline (Ege), daughter of Hans Ege, of Winnishiek county, Iowa. Four children have been born to them—Katrinka, Olga, Leonard and Arthur. The family attend the Lutheran Church, of which Mr. Ruen is a trustee. Ole P. and Carrie Ruen, parents of our subject, were natives of Norway, the father emigrating to this country while still a boy and locating in Dane county, Wisconsin, where he remained but a short time. Leaving here, he came to Winnishiek county, Iowa, purchasing a farm on which he followed farming up to the time of his death in 1893. The mother is still living. Eleven children were born to them, seven of whom are living—Peter, Emelia, Henry, Cornelia, Olans, Marie and Margaret. The father was prominent in the Lutheran Church. He was a Democrat in politics, and filled many township offices.

**Alpha C. Thomas**, of Blooming Prairie, was born in Scott county, Minnesota, January 29, 1872. He went to school in Scott and Kandiyohi counties and attended the Minneapolis

Business College. Learning the carpenter's trade, he worked in Minneapolis until 1890 and then as superintendent of the Fuller Construction Company, was employed in Chicago, St. Louis and other large cities of the east and south. In 1896 he settled in Blooming Prairie. He has as a contractor built many public and private buildings in Minnesota and adjacent states. Mr. Thomas was married April 19, 1898, in Minneapolis, to Frances M. Heskamp, of New Orleans, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Heskamp. Her father was a merchant tailor. He died November 30, 1891. Her mother is still living in New York City. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas—Ray C., born January 23, 1899, died when five weeks old; Shirley B., born February 10, 1900; a daughter who died in infancy, born April 11, 1904; Lois C., born July 27, 1908. Mr. Thomas is politically a Republican and is a member of the Presbyterian Church. In the Masonic fraternity, he is a member of the Blue Lodge Chapter Commandery and a Shriner in St. Paul. He is also a member of the M. M. A. In civic affairs Mr. Thomas has always shown a keen interest. He has served as one of the city council for three years and been a member of the school board for five years. As a sportsman his skill is recognized and he is a member of the Blooming Prairie Gun Club. His success in life has resulted from his own untiring efforts. He has a beautiful modern home, which he built in 1900, besides other city property. Chester C. Thomas and Elizabeth Spurrier Thomas, parents of Alpha C. Thomas, were natives, respectively, of New York and Virginia. They removed to Wisconsin in 1855 and settled in Scott county, Minnesota, in 1866. In 1880 they located in Kandiyohi county and in 1887 went to Minneapolis. Seventeen years later they came to Blooming Prairie. Mr. Thomas during the Civil War was a member of Company A, Second Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He served two and a half years. In the battle of Gettysburg he was severely wounded. He was in the hospital six months before his final discharge. Mr. Thomas had six brothers in the Union army, two of whom were killed in battle. They were George, William, Charles, Joseph, Collins and Virgal. William and Charles died in battle.

**Jay A. Kasper**, a prosperous farmer of Medford township, was born in Somerset township on January 14, 1879. He attended school at River Point, Somerset township, after which he entered the eighth grade of the Owatonna public schools. Leaving school, Mr. Kasper worked with his father on the farm. In 1903 he bought two hundred acres in section twelve, Medford township. The farm has been greatly improved in every way—fine buildings having been reared recently. Mr. Kasper takes great interest in his Holstein cattle. On March 15, 1904, he

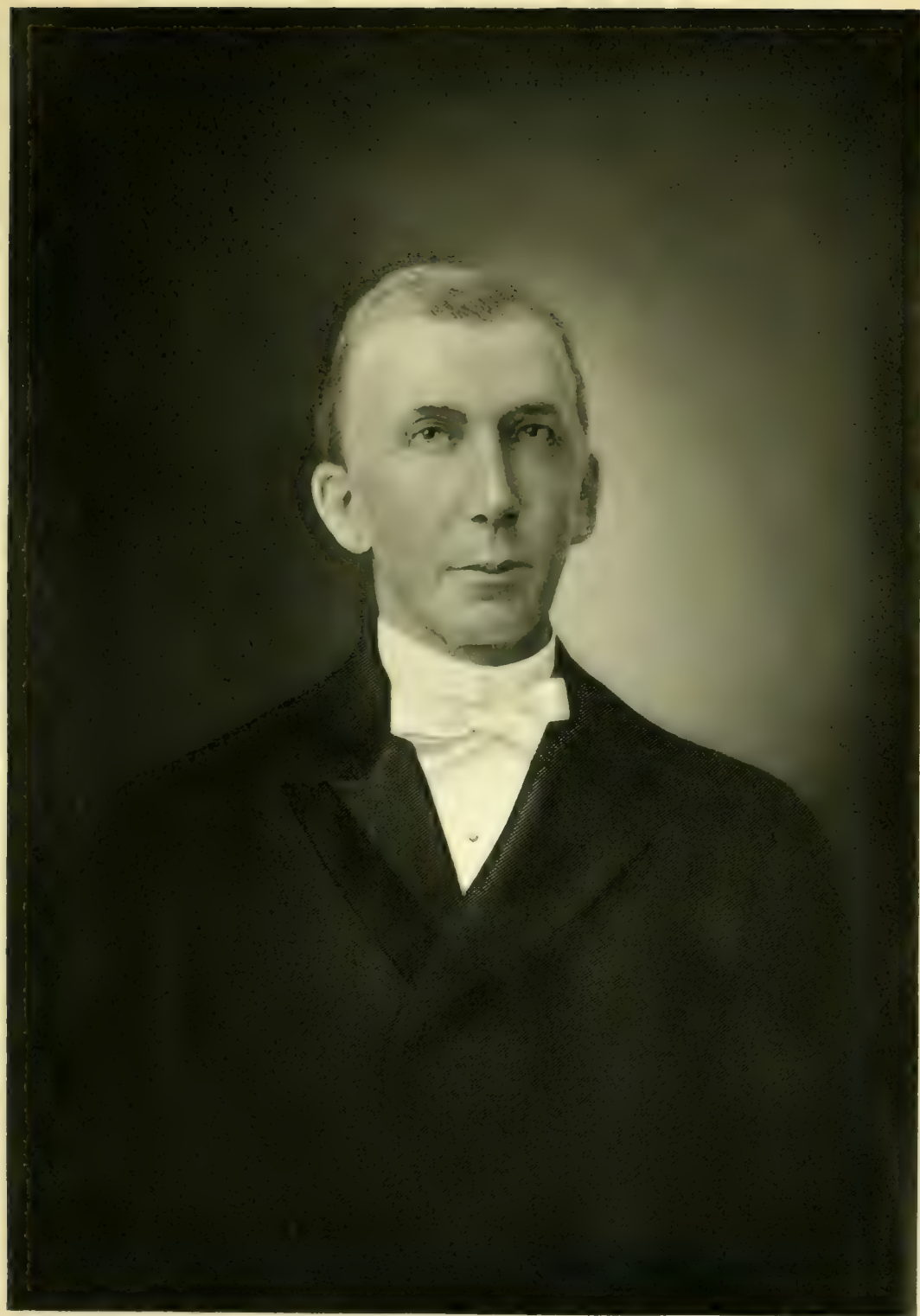


was married to Anna M. Ripka. Mrs. Kasper's father is dead but her mother still lives. Two children have blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Kasper—Valdimore S. and Jay Jerome. Politically, Mr. Kasper is a Democrat. He is a member of the M. W. A. and C. S. P. S., and serves on the school board, and is also interested in and a director of the Medford Creamery. Anton Kasper and Frances Simon, his wife, parents of the subject of this sketch, are natives of Bohemia. They came to America in 1864 and located in Pratt township, Steele county. Staying there a short time, they removed to Somerset township, where Mr. Kasper still conducts a general farming business.

**Nis Petersen**, the owner of a fertile farm in Blooming Prairie, was born in Denmark October 17, 1849. His parents, Thomas and Walberg (Juul) Petersen, spent their lives in their native country. They are both deceased. Nis received his education in Denmark and emigrated to America in 1872. Upon arriving in this country, he spent a few months in Illinois. Then he came to Steele county, where he remained for a few months. From there he moved to Howard county, Iowa, where he engaged in railroad work. He remained there for four years. In 1876, he came to Steele county and located in Blooming Prairie township, where he purchased one hundred and forty acres of land. He has greatly improved this land, has erected an up-to-date dwelling and other buildings, and has followed general and diversified farming here since. Mr. Petersen was married June 13, 1876. Six children have blessed their home, viz: Soren, now of Bixby Village, Steele county, was born November 6, 1877; Thomas, a clerk in a hardware store in Claremont, was born June 20, 1880; Carolina, now Mrs. John Jerdet, was born October 21, 1883; Chris, who resides at home, was born September 26, 1885; Nels, also at home, was born February 17, 1887; Agnes Christina Marie, residing at home, was born April 27, 1892. Mr. Petersen is a Republican in political sentiment. He is a member of the Danish Lutheran Church. He makes a specialty of breeding Shorthorn and Durham cattle and Norman horses, and has some very fine stock on his farm. He is an enterprising farmer and a highly respected citizen.

**Thomas Thompson** is a native of Blooming Prairie township, where he was born April 12, 1868. Here he attended the district school during his boyhood and afterward worked on his father's farm until his father's death, when Thomas bought the old homestead from the other heirs, and now has one hundred and twenty acres, eighty acres in section thirty-four, Blooming Prairie township, and forty acres, Freeborn county. He has never married, but his sister Caroline is his housekeeper. He has three other sisters—Mary, now Mrs. Christ Heen of Goodhue county;





John K. Kelly



Bertha, now Mrs. Peter Peterson of North Dakota, and Stena. Mr. Thompson is a Republican politically, a member of the Lutheran Church, has served his township as road overseer and is an upright and highly respected citizen. Edward Torgerson and wife, parents of the subject of this sketch, were natives of Norway. Coming to America in the later fifties, they located in Blooming Prairie and engaged in farming which he followed all his life. Mr. Torgerson died in 1872 and his wife in 1878. Both were killed by lightning.

**Hon. William H. Kelly.**—Every community, which achieves prominence as a business center must needs possess in the days of its earlier growth and later progress, a few men of business acumen who, while building in the present, can also see the necessities and possibilities of the future. Such a man was the late Hon. William H. Kelly, who died in Owatonna December 12, 1908. At that time the press of the county and state joined in their encomiums. One of the tributes his life received was as follows. "Mr. Kelly was one the early settlers in Owatonna, coming here in 1861. He was probably the wealthiest man in the city, but that wealth was never gained taking advantage of his fellow men. In fact, the great respect and affection in which he was held by his fellow citizens of Owatonna was rather because of his generosity and public spirit than because of his wealth. Mr. Kelly was generous to a fault. He loved to give for service rendered, a bonus over and above the stipulated price or wage. He was exact in his business methods and expected every man to meet his obligations promptly and fully, just as he did himself, but when the account was closed it was a common thing for Mr. Kelly to make the other party to the transaction a handsome present upon the acceptance of which he would insist, but the thanks for which he would avoid so far as possible. In public affairs and public enterprise Mr. Kelly was similarly generous. He could always be counted upon to do his part when funds were needed for any public entertainment or undertaking. More than that, he inaugurated and launched several public enterprises without suggestion from others. Such was his gift of a \$10,000 addition to the Owatonna City Hospital and his generous donation to Pillsbury Academy for the purpose of the erection of the boy's dormitory named for him, "Kelly Hall." Pillsbury Academy also had many other gifts, large and small, from this big-hearted man. In his private enterprises, so far as the public welfare was concerned, Mr. Kelly was equally generous and public spirited. An evidence of this is the beautiful and costly three-story Kelly block, which stands on the corner of Broadway and Cedar streets—one of the handsomest business buildings in this city of many

handsome blocks. Mr. Kelly was a man to whom activity and achievement were as necessary as breath. His long life was a busy one and the variety of enterprises in which he was engaged was remarkable. He was a tireless worker, a man of highly developed business ability and foresight. In a business way he probably was more extensively engaged in an occupation which might be described as that of land attorney, than in any other occupation. As such he was considered the best informed and ablest man in the state. His activity was first directed along this line by his appointment as receiver of the United States Land Office at Redwood Falls, through the influence, and during the early service in Congress, of the late Hon. M. H. Dunnell. In this position Mr. Kelly made his mark for ability and method and thereafter his attention was largely devoted to land business as well as to investments generally. He was an honorable man, and his word was as good as his bond. The great number of warm and loyal friends which Mr. Kelly had is perhaps the best evidence of his true character. He was an excellent host, a most pleasant companion in social moments and a firm friend. He was especially interested in young people, loved to offer them encouragement; and his friendship for people of mature years extended to their children and grandchildren. That he deserved the rank of a first citizen of Owatonna and that his memory should be cherished as one of the city's principal benefactors is the feeling of all in the community who knew and appreciated his generosity, public and private."

William H. Kelly was born in New York State May 17, 1831. He there received his education in the public schools and supplemented this with a business course. Previous to his arrival in Owatonna in 1859 he engaged in the mercantile business in his native state and in Illinois. For many years, until 1871, he was a prominent Owatonna merchant. In that year he became receiver for the United States Land Office at Redwood Falls, Minnesota, serving four years. He then took up land, speculating largely in Minnesota and in the Dakotas, continuing in this business for the remainder of his life. He found time to serve the city of Owatonna as mayor and also in other offices. Among other business holdings in Owatonna he was a heavy stockholder in the First National Bank. Being of a sociable nature, he allied himself with the Masonic fraternity and attained high degrees in that order. Mr. Kelly was married October 5, 1870, at Morrison, Illinois, to Mattie Drake, of that place, who proved a most able helpmate and loving companion, to whose sympathy and encouragement much of his success in life was due. Marion C., a daughter of Wm. H. Kelly, passed away January 2, 1880. Mr. Kelly was interred in Forest Hill cemetery,

where he had erected a beautiful family vault at the time of his daughter's death. Mrs. Kelly still survives and maintains a great interest in her husband's numerous philanthropies.

**Charles Adsit** was one of the pioneer settlers of Steele county, being of that number who left the comforts and luxuries of the east for the rigors of pioneer endeavor and thus helped to establish the prosperity of the west. He was born in Jefferson county, New York, April 29, 1833. He there received his education in an old district school house and worked with his father on the farm until two years after attaining his majority. At that time Minnesota was being opened for settlement and many of the more courageous of the young men in New York State were hastening to try their fortunes in the newly opened country. Among such was a party of five from Jefferson county, consisting of Allen C. and Charles Adsit, George Grimshaw, John Ball and John Perham. The story of the arrival in Steele county of this party is told elsewhere by A. C. Adsit. Sufficient it is to say here that Charles Adsit located on Section 35, Aurora township, where he became one of the leading citizens. In the fall of 1856 he was appointed postmaster at Oak Glen, Aurora township, and served fifteen years. He also served in various township offices at different times. In 1896 Mr. Adsit came to Owatonna, and lived retired until his death, which occurred in 1902.

Mr. Adsit was married May 10, 1860, to Janette Woodruff, a native of Jefferson county, New York. She proved a devoted wife and loving mother and after a life filled with loving sacrifice and good deeds died October 2, 1879. To Mr. and Mrs. Adsit were born seven children. Three died in infancy. Charles W. was born February 11, 1863. Will B. was born March 21, 1865. John Waldo was born December 12, 1868. Nettie P. was born March 13, 1877. She died 1894. Jonah Woodruff, father of Mrs. Charles Adsit, was a man of distinction in the east. In his younger days he achieved considerable renown as a landscape and portrait painter. Subsequently he was connected with the Woodruff Sleeping Car Company, and was the inventor of the first sleeping cars used in the United States. These cars were the forerunners of the Pullman cars of the present day, and the manufacturers of the latter car have paid large royalties to the Woodruff family for the original rights.

**P. W. Ebling**, a well known farmer of Meriden township, Steele county, was born in Owatonna, Minnesota, November 18, 1871. After completing his education in the district schools and assisting for a time on the home farm he was given his present farm by his father, consisting of a hundred and sixty acres in Meriden township. A hundred acres of this land is under



cultivation, the remainder yielding good returns as woodland, and as paturage for his numerous herds of stock. Durham cattle have been Mr. Ebling's favorites, but he is gradually changing over to high grade Holsteins, finding them better adapted for dairying purposes. The milk is sold to a neighboring creamery. Full blooded Poland China hogs and good horses are also raised. The buildings are all of the most modern type, and the machinery and equipment are fully up to twentieth century standards. In politics, Mr. Ebling has always been a staunch adherent of the Democratic party, but has recently become a convert of the Socialists. He has served as justice of the peace several years. The Benevolent and Protective Order of Eagles counts him as a valued member, as have the Modern Woodmen of America for the last fifteen years. In 1895 he was married to Minnie Steleter, daughter of Gottlieb and Minnie Steleter. Seven children have blessed this marriage: Michael, Golda, Arthur, Reuben, Paul, Emerald and Marie, all living at home. The family are loyal attendants of the Lutheran church.

Michael and Mary (Heneritzi) Ebeling, parents of the subject of this sketch, were born and raised in Germany. In 1860 they came to this country, locating in Wisconsin, where Michael engaged in construction work on the Northwestern railroad for ten years, his first wages being 75 cents a day. Coming to Meriden township, he engaged in land dealing with great success, at one time owning over 1,000 acres of land. He had a family of five children: George, John, P. W. (our subject), Michael, and Mary, the wife of Edward Degner. Each child was started out in life with a farm of 160 acres of Meriden land. His wife owns a quarter section also. Michael Ebling died in 1908.

**Christopher Batzle**, now deceased, was one of the substantial residents of the county, and while establishing the foundations of his own family competence, found time to think of the needs and desires of others. Throughout his life he was assisted in all his endeavors by his worthy wife, and left her to carry out many of his philanthropic and altruistic plans. The subject of this memoir, whose deeds so worthily deserve perpetuating in this work, as an example of successful accomplishment to the younger generations, and the generations to come, was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, April 27, 1837, and came to America with his parents, Henry and Martha Batzle, who located in Buffalo, N. Y., where Christopher spent his boyhood days. In 1856, with his brother, Henry Batzle, Jr., he came to Minnesota, and settled in Anoka county, near St. Paul. There in 1857, he married Elizabeth Koller, who proved a sympathetic and capable helpmeet. Mr. Batzle continued to farm in Anoka county, until the outbreak of the Civil War, when, filled with patriotic ardor, he prepared



Elizabeth M. Sage





Christopher Bayle





for an absence by putting his affairs in shape, and in 1864, on February 20, enlisted at Rochester in Company D, First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, serving until mustered out, in August, 1865. At the close of the war, he came back to Minnesota, and farmed in Nicollet county for six years, afterward moving to Minneapolis, where he dealt in real estate, and became a house-building contractor. The Centennial year, 1876, records his first arrival in Steele county, his first residence here being on a farm within the city limits of Owatonna. Afterward, turning over his farm to his son-in-law, C. P. Sahler, he moved to Owatonna, and invested in and built up business property in the city. In 1901, they moved back to the old homestead, and there resided until the death of Mr. Batzle, March 29, 1903. Mr. Batzle was an honest and upright man, a good husband, a kind father and an excellent neighbor. His life was a success, not so much in the fact that he became prosperous, as in the fact that he became well known and esteemed for virtuous and upright manhood, which is above, beyond and better than any other success. His remains were followed to the grave by a vast concourse of loving friends, the services being conducted by James A. Goodwin Post, G. A. R., with interment in the Forest Hill cemetery. Mr. Batzle was a member of the German Lutheran and his wife of the Reformed church. He was a Republican in politics, and though often urged to run for political office, he never cared to seek public honors. He was a self-made man, starting his career with nothing, and with the aid of his loving wife, accomplished more than many men with wider advantages and opportunities. Shortly before his death, Mr. Batzle made known to his wife, his wish that out of the estate a considerable sum be devoted to the Owatonna City Hospital, an institution in which he had the depest interest. The amount and character of what was to be done was left to the discretion of his wife, who nobly filled her trust by contributing to the hospital a large amount of up-to-date apparatus for giving electrical treatment, consisting of a Wimshurst-Holtz static machine, with all the accessories, including cases, etc. In addition to this, Mrs. Batzle paid for laying the new cement sidewalks and for many other things needed at the hospital. All honor is due her and the memory of her departed husband, for their generous gifts, which were actuated, not by desire for approval, but rather by a humanitarianism and patriotism of the highest type. Mrs. Batzle has erected in the cemetery a beautiful monument to the memory of her husband. She still resides at 325 North Oak street, and is known for the numerous good works and acts of charity and kindness that she does. Mrs. Batzle was Elizabeth Koller, born March 19, 1842, daughter of Emily and Katherine (Ramsdorf)

Keller, who came from Schleswig-Holstein in 1845, and settled in Davenport, Iowa, and in Henry county, Illinois. Later they moved to Chisago county, Minnesota, in 1856, and followed farming all their lives. The former died in 1891 and the mother in 1895. Mr. and Mrs. Batzle had one daughter, Sarah, the wife of C. P. Sahler.

**Hon. William Riley Kinyon**, retired president of the First National Bank, has had an active part in the upbuilding of Steele county, and his shrewd business acumen and integrity has assisted the farmers and business men of the county in weathering more than one period of financial stress. He was born in Jefferson county, New York, February 3, 1833, and there received his early education. Left fatherless at the age of seventeen years, he had to work hard as a youth, doing various odd jobs, including service in a dairy. Determined to make the most of his talents and to rise above his circumstances, he spent all his spare time in reading and study. Later by stern self denial he was enabled to study a few terms at Union Academy, Belleville, N. Y. Laboring under almost every conceivable disadvantage, he nevertheless, at the age of twenty-one, in 1854, was so far advanced as to enter the junior class of Union College, Schenectady, N. Y., graduating with honors and delivering the valedictory of the Adelpic Society. The two winters before graduating, he taught school, following the college curriculum all the time and keeping up with his classes. Soon after completing his studies in college, Mr. Kinyon moved to Juneau, Wis., and taught school one year. Subsequently he spent several months in the office of the clerk of court, reading law all the time he was in Juneau. In the spring of 1858 he was admitted to the bar, and the same year came to Owatonna, being admitted to practice at once upon his arrival. A few days after Minnesota was admitted as a state, Mr. Kinyon purchased a small building where the First National Bank building is now located. Here he opened a law and abstract office. In 1866, in company with Jason C. Easton, he opened a private bank which has since become the First National Bank. A history of this institution appears elsewhere. In the early days, Mr. Kinyon became associated in law practice with the late Hon. Lewis L. Wheelock, a partnership which continued until 1872, when Mr. Kinyon retired from the law to devote all his time to finance. In 1903, after thirty-three years of faithful and efficient service, Mr. Kinyon resigned his position as president of the First National Bank, and retired. Since then he has traveled extensively, taking various trips to Europe, through old Mexico, and through the Canal Zone, including Panama and Venezuela. Mr. Kinyon was a member of the lower house of the Minnesota Legislature in 1868, chief clerk





MR. AND MRS. C. P. SHALER

of the same house in 1869 and 1870, and again member and also speaker of the house in 1875 and 1876. He has been a member of the school board and of the city council. Since 1883 he has been treasurer of what is now Pillsbury Academy, and is also serving on the executive committee. Few men have been more active in Masonry in this state than Mr. Kinyon. He was the first Worshipful Master of Star in the East Lodge, No. 33, A. F. & A. M., and the second commander of Cyrene Commandery, No. 9, Knights Templar. Mr. Kinyon was originally a Douglas Democrat, but since the outbreak of the Civil War he has adhered to the Republican party. The subject of this sketch was married December 31, 1857, at Juneau, Wis., to Mettie Gillett, and to this union has been born one son, George R., president of the First National Bank. The life and character of William R. Kinyon need no eulogy from the pen of the biographer. His name has been prominent in the affairs of the county and state for over half a century, and in all that time his integrity has never even been questioned. Samuel and Dolly (Wheelock) Kinyon, parents of W. R. Kinyon, were staunch old New Englanders. The grandfather, Joshua Kinyon, was in the war of 1812. Samuel Kinyon was a successful farmer. The Wheelocks are one of the oldest families in Vermont. Isaac and Lydia (Harrington) Gillette, parents of Mrs. W. R. Kinyon, were natives of Wayne county, New York. They settled in Wisconsin in 1856, and later came to Minnesota. The father died at an early age, and the mother died in Owatonna in 1901.

**Charles P. Sahler**, a well known and highly esteemed citizen of Owatonna, was born at Baraboo, Wis., on June 15, 1857. His parents, August and Christena (Kline) Sahler, are both natives of Germany, from which country they emigrated to America in the early forties. Upon their arrival here they located in Sauk county, Wisconsin, where they engaged in general farming for about twelve years. In 1869 they moved to Minnesota and located in Clinton Falls township, Steele county. All their household goods and various belongings were packed upon emigrant wagons and Mr. Sahler, then a lad of twelve years of age, was engaged as teamster. He patiently guided his team, up hills, down dales, over creeks, through the woods, and over rough roads until his tedious journey was ended. Arriving at Clinton Falls, they purchased a 240-acre tract of prairie and timber land, which with diligent toil and unceasing courage they succeeded in clearing, breaking and improving, until it now stands an ideal living place. Our subject received his early education at the district schools of Baraboo and Clinton Falls. Most of the time not spent at school was devoted to improvements on his father's farm, until 1880. In the spring of 1880, he



started for himself, renting a farm within the city limits of Owatonna, where he worked with the spirit of a good German until, after the lapse of a few years, he was able to purchase the farm. Mr. Sahler did not lay aside his ambition upon becoming owner of these premises, but purchased more land until now he owns 170 acres, all which lie within the city limits. During the month of December, 1880, he was married to Miss Sarah M. Batzle. In 1907, he rented his farm and in 1910 moved into the business districts of Owatonna, where he still resides. He is a good, big-hearted man, appreciated by his friends and the whole community. For several years past Mr. Sahler has served as alderman of the third ward. He is one of the organizers of the Farmers' Gilt Edge Creamery Association of Owatonna, and served as treasurer for eight years. In 1901 and again in 1910 he became president, which position together with that of manager, he still holds. For the last ten years he has been director of the Farmers' elevator at Owatonna, and is now president, and he is also a director of the Owatonna Canning Factory and of the Washington Tool Company of Owatonna. He was influential in organizing the Steele County Fair Association, and at present holds the office of director and second vice president of that organization. Mr. Sahler received nothing by luck or chance; but owes all to his good honest dealings and his unceasing toil. His political sentiments are with the Republican party, his religious faith with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

**Charles J. Kinyon**, cashier of the First National Bank of Owatonna, is one of the substantial men of Owatonna, and has taken his part in its municipal and financial progress. He was born in Jefferson county, New York, May 17, 1848, and received his education in the public schools, supplementing this with a thorough business course in the Hungeford Collegiate Institute, at Adams, N. Y. In 1870, as a young man of twenty-eight, he came to Owatonna, and after working in a bank for a short time, entered the grocery business. He then went back east, but after a short period returned to Owatonna, and became teller in the First National Bank. In 1875 he became cashier, and in 1883 was elected vice president. In 1906 he again assumed the duties of cashier, in which position he is still serving. Possibly Mr. Kinyon's most distinguished service to his fellow citizens has been his work in connection with the water supply of Owatonna, he being practically the originator of the present system. He was city treasurer four terms, and alderman from the second ward four terms. During the latter period he served as acting mayor for a short time. Mr. Kinyon was married in September, 1874, to Charlotte E. Wardwell, a native of New York State.





THOS. E. CASHMAN

To this union have been born three children: Fayette C., is assistant cashier in the First National Bank of Owatonna; William W. is employed by the Alexander Lumber Company; Edna A. married Richard D. Collins, of Winton, Minn. The family residence is pleasantly situated at 331 East Vine street. The parents of C. J. Kinyon were Samuel and Dolly Kinyon, natives of New York State. The father went to California with the gold rush in 1849, and died at sea while on his way back to New York. The mother came to Owatonna in 1874 and died in June, 1881.

**Hon. Thomas E. Cashman**, the well-known nurseryman, has achieved an enviable position in the state, both as a man of public affairs and as a successful and progressive horticulturist. His nursery business is constantly growing, and his political friends predict that in public life the state senatorship is but a first step which will lead him on to still greater honors. Mr. Cashman is a native son of this county, born in Clinton Falls township, September 2, 1871, and lived on the home farm till he became of age. He attended the public schools of his neighborhood and the parochial school at Owatonna, after which he began his career by working a short time at the carpenter's trade. He felt a call, however, to wider fields of activity, and accepted a position as traveling salesman for a nursery concern. Seeing the opportunities for a young man in the nursery business, Mr. Cashman, in 1898, purchased a small tract of land inside the city limits of Owatonna, and started in business for himself on a small scale under the name of the Clinton Falls Nursery Company. The growth of this business was steady and satisfactory. In 1901, came a necessity for an enlargement of the scope of the industry, and a company was incorporated with Thomas E. Cashman, M. R. Cashman and W. H. Hart as the stockholders, and one year later took in J. R. Laughlin and J. A. Cieszinski. In 1906 this company added 100,000 square feet of glass for greenhouse purposes, devoted almost entirely to the cut flower business, and in 1908 added an extensive seed department. This combination is among the largest of its kind in the United States. Mr. Cashman is a director of the Security State Bank of Owatonna, and belongs to the Knights of Columbus, the Catholic Order of Foresters and the Ancient Order of Hibernians. The subject of this sketch is a staunch Democrat in politics, and has been active in the councils of his party. He served for a long period as a member of the school board of Owatonna, and ably filled the mayor's chair of the city for two terms. In 1906 he was elected to the Minnesota state senate for a term of four years. It is a tribute to the personal popularity of Mr. Cashman and a testimonial of the confidence he has

won, that he carried a nominally Republican county by a plurality of over 300 votes. Mr. Cashman was married September 14, 1897, to Margaret J. Laughlin, a daughter of J. H. Laughlin, of Merton township, Steele county. The Cashman home has been blessed with five children: Katherine, Mary, Eugene, Edwin and Genevieve.

Edward and Mary (Welch) Cashman, parents of Senator Cashman, are natives of Ireland and Massachusetts, respectively. They came to Minnesota in 1867 and located in Clinton Falls township, Steele county, where they are still engaged in farming.

Mr. Cashman was appointed president of the State Horticultural Society in 1910, and is also president of the Minnesota Farmers' Institute board.

**Julius F. Young**, an honored veteran of the Civil War, and for forty years a business man of Owatonna, has made an enviable record for himself, both in military and civil life. He was born in Germany, February 28, 1845, son of Friedrich and Julia Young. In the Revolutionary times of 1849 the father took an active part on the side of the people, losing life and property.

The mother, as a refugee, came to New York City, and in 1852 to Stillwater, Minn.

The subject of this sketch was reared by his grandmother in Germany until 1859, when he came to St. Paul, Minn., learning the watchmaker trade, working there until 1862, when he went to Wisconsin, enlisting in Company A, of the Twentieth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. While at St. Louis, Mo., he was made orderly to Major General Herron, with whom he served in the Army of the Frontier, in the Thirteenth Army Corps during the Vicksburg campaign and in the Department of the Gulf. When the commanders were changed, he became orderly for Major General Gordon E. Granger, who commanded the corps. In the campaign against Mobile, Ala., when Mobile was captured, he stayed at Mobile and became orderly for Major General Canby until July 1865, when he came to Madison, Wis., for muster out of the service. He was in the following engagements: The Battle of Prairie Grove, Ark., where he was wounded in the left shoulder and lip; the capture of Van Buren, Ark.; the capture of Fort Smith, Ark., and a number of skirmishes in Missouri and Arkansas; the siege of Vicksburg and the battles leading thereto; the capture of Yazoo City; the battle of Achafalayo, La. At Achafalayo bridge, while delivering dispatches to the Nineteenth Iowa and Twenty-sixth Indiana, he was captured with these regiments and taken to Tyler, Tex., where in about two weeks he with others escaped to Fort Smith, Ark., rejoining without delay his command at New Orleans, La., in time for the



General Banks expedition to the Rio Grande, where he participated in the capture of Brazos Island and Point Isabel, the battle of Brownsville, the capture of Corpus Christi and a skirmish at Cortina Ranch, Tex.; also in the invasion of Madamoras, Mex., for the protection of Americans during the battle between Imperial and Loyal Mexicans. He was left on Commodore Farragut's flagship, "The Hartford," to be sent back with dispatches to General Granger as soon as an opening for the army was effected. He witnessed the terrible havoc to the fleet while passing the batteries of Fort Morgan and Gaines, the blowing up and sinking of the Monitor Tecumseh, with 126 men, close to the Hartford; the thrilling naval battle and capture of the Confederate ram, "Tennessee"; the siege of Fort Morgan and engagements of Bassecour (Fish river), Ala.; the battle of Pascagoula, Miss.; expedition to Pascavello Bay, Fla.; the siege of Spanish Fort and Blackley and the capture of Mobile, Ala. He served until July, 1865, and was mustered out at Madison, Wis. He subsequently came to Owatonna, Minn., and worked at his trade until January, 1866, and then started a jewelry store on Bridge street, where he continued business for forty years, meeting with reasonable success, retiring from business in 1906. He was married July 30, 1872, at Owatonna, to Rosalie Caroline Dinnijes, a native of Watertown, Wis. Four children have blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Young: Eleanor R. and Camilla A., living at home; Julius F. and an infant boy, both deceased. Mr. Young is a Unitarian in his religious belief, and in politics is a progressive Republican. He is a member of James A. Goodwin Post No. 81, G. A. R., Owatonna. By hard work and strict attention to business he has accumulated a competence, owning the "Young Block," on Bridge street, Owatonna, and also property in St. Paul, Minn.

Claude J. Clefton, president of the Clefton Company, and one of the well known citizens of Owatonna, was born in Mukwonago, Wis., May 24, 1867, and when nine years of age was taken by his mother to Madison in the same state. There he attended the public schools, and subsequently learned the plumbing and heating trade, working at this line in Madison for five years. In 1885 he came to St. Paul and engaged in similar work. His first experience in Owatonna was in 1888, when he installed the heating plant and did all the plumbing in the state public school buildings, the first work of this kind in the city. He then entered into business at Faribault with his brother, under the firm name of the Clefton Brothers. A short time afterward the firm took the contract for installing a public sewer in Owatonna, and subsequently opened a general plumbing establishment here. After a few years, David W. Sperry be-

came a partner, and the firm name was changed to Clef-ton Brothers & Sperry. In the meantime the firm continued to grow in importance, and the volume of business increased materially. Three years after Mr. Sperry's admission to the firm, Claude J. Clef-ton purchased the interest of his brother Sewell, and the firm name became Clef-ton & Sperry until Mr. Sperry's death. The business was then continued under the name of the C. J. Clef-ton Plumbing & Heating Company, until 1905, when G. J. Clef-ton purchased a half interest. In 1908, S. M. Clef-ton purchased an interest, and a branch was opened at Austin, Minn. In 1910 the business was incorporated, with C. J. Clef-ton as president, the firm name being "The Clef-ton Company." The company has been very successful, its business dealings are conducted on a high plane of integrity, and its work is of the best. The subject of this sketch belongs to the Masonic order and to the I. O. O. F., the K. of P., the C. of H. and the B. A. Y. He is a member of the park board of the city of Owatonna, and chairman of the committee on fountains and grounds. He was married December 23, 1890, at Mukwonago, Wis., to Mena Gul-bronson, of that place, and to this union have been born three children: Clyde M., May 11, 1892; Herbert E., Feb. 1, 1896; and George S., Oct. 25, 1899. The family faith is that of the Episco-pal Church, and the residence is a comfortable home at 622 East Vine street.

**George W. Morford**, formerly a prosperous farmer, now re-tired from active work and living in Owatonna, was born in New York state on September 17, 1831. He is a son of Cyrus W. and Mary (Riggs) Morford, both natives of New York, who in 1843 came to Wisconsin, where the father worked at his trade as a carpenter for the remainder of his life, dying there in 1857. The mother is also dead. Mr. Morford was educated in the public schools of New York. After leaving school he took up farming until 1854, when he came west, locating first in Wis-consin. In March, 1856, he came to Owatonna and pre-empted 160 acres of land in section 6, Owatonna township; broke and cleared the land, built himself a home and followed general farming until 1894, when he retired from active work and moved to the city of Owatonna, where he now lives. He was married, December 23, 1857, to Miss Sarah A. Weller, of Lyons, N. Y., a daughter of James and Harriet Weller, natives of England, who came to America in 1853 and located at Lyons, N. Y., where they engaged in farming the rest of their lives. The father died in 1862, and the mother is also dead. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Morford. Alice C. is in the art department of Pillsbury Academy and lives at home with her parents; Harriet E., a teacher in the public schools of Owa-

tonna since 1893, is now principal of the Lincoln school. In his political views Mr. Morford is a republican, and in his religious faith he is a Baptist. He has served his town as supervisor, and also as assessor, and has been a member of the school board of Owatonna. By the hard labor of himself and his good wife he has acquired a competence, and they are now living in retirement in their pleasant home in Owatonna, where he still takes an active interest in all that pertains to the advancement of the city and county.

**Dana P. Sawyer** for many years went in and out among the people of Summit township, his character and life a living example of righteous industry and unswerving integrity. He was born in Vermont, July 29, 1840, and there received his early education. In 1866, he came west and located near Geneva, in Freeborn county. There he purchased eighty acres of land. Later he sold the land and moved to a farm near Blooming Prairie. In 1881 he came to Summit township and purchased eighty acres, to which he added from time to time, until he owned 240 acres of well tilled land. He was successfully engaged in farming at the time of his death, October 29, 1900. He was a Republican in politics, a director of the school board of his district and a prominent member of the Methodist Church. Mr. Sawyer was married March 28, 1888, to Melinda McFall, and to this union were born four children: Ira, of Summit township; Mabel, wife of Ralph Burshem, of Summit township; Floyd and Elwain, who are at home with their mother. Mrs. Sawyer was born in McKean county, Pennsylvania, April 8, 1854, and came west with her parents, Chester and Phoebe M. (Garlick) McFall, in 1863, locating in Summit township, where they farmed all their days. The father died April 8, 1901, and the mother August 21, 1898.

**George W. Moriarty**, who farms on the family homestead in Summit township, is well liked throughout the community. He was born in Franklin county, New York, April 6, 1866, son of John and Ellen Moriarty. He attended the public schools and then took a course in the Lawrenceville (N. Y.) high school. Then he learned the carpenter's trade, and in 1884 came west and became a contractor for the Duluth & Iron Range railroad, until 1895, when he came to Summit township and took up his residence on the old homestead, which, one year later, he purchased. He has since successfully carried on general farming. Mr. Moriarty was married June 23, 1897, to Alice Farr, of Geneva, Freeborn county, daughter of R. P. Farr, a prominent farmer, and Isabelle Hill, his wife, who died August 29, 1901. Mrs. Moriarty was born September 2, 1875. To her happy union with G. W. Moriarty have been born three children: Marie L.,

January 16, 1899; Alice I., October 13, 1903, and George R., January 15, 1902.

John and Ellen Moriarty, parents of George W. Moriarty, were natives respectively of New York state and Ireland, the mother having come to this country at the age of nine years. After living for a time in New York state, they came west in 1884 and located in Steele county on 160 acres in section 35. They built a home, developed and improved the land and followed general farming. The mother died in 1886, two years after coming to Minnesota. The father sold his farm to his son in 1897, and lived with him until his death, April 13, 1909.

**Isaac W. Ferguson**, a respected citizen of Summit township, was born in Chenango county, New York, December 23, 1849, son of Stephen and Catharine (Ruliffson) Ferguson, life-long residents of that state. He received his education in the public schools and remained in his native state until attaining his majority, at which time, in 1870, he came west and located in section 30, in Summit township. After ten years he sold this land and moved to Marshall, Lyon county, remaining there thirteen years. Then he lived in Freeborn county for five years, and subsequently returned to Steele county and purchased his present farm in section 31, where he has since successfully farmed. Mr. Ferguson is a stockholder in the Ellendale creamery. A thorough friend of civic righteousness, he is determined that the Prohibition party has found the sure cure for the greatest of the evils with which the country is afflicted, and has been an earnest worker in the ranks of that party for many years. In the Methodist Church he is a steward and trustee, and his services on the official board for many years have been highly valued. He has also been superintendent of the Sunday school twelve years and chorister of the church for a considerable time. The subject of this sketch was married, December 23, 1868, to Marie Tabor, who was born in July, 1851, and died August 25, 1872, leaving one daughter, Josephine E., who was born January 12, 1870, and died February 4, 1874. Mr. Ferguson was married, October 16, 1877, to Emma Cusick, born in Monroe county, New York, April 9, 1857. To this union have been born three children: James Raymond, born September 9, 1884, and died June 10, 1886; Harold, born December 8, 1885, his father's right-hand man on the farm; Catherine Avis, born August 9, 1890, and died September 24, 1898. Stephen and Catherine (Ruliffson) Ferguson were natives of New York state, of Scotch and German ancestry respectively. The former followed farming in New York state all his life, and died in 1855. The latter passed away in 1878.



**Thomas M. Anderson**, a well-known farmer of Havana township, has the honor of having been the originator of the station of Anderson and the postoffice of Lysne, having given several acres of his land to the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company for the purpose of establishing a station at this advantageous point. The subject of this sketch was born in Norway, January 2, 1858, son of Mons Anderson Vold and Martha Thors-tondotor Grathe, his wife, who came to America in 1861, bringing with them young Thomas, who at that time was but two and a half years old. Locomotion was slow in those days, and being hindered by high winds and rough weather, they were fourteen weeks in making the trip in the old sailing vessel in which they had embarked. They at last reached land, and after another tiresome journey, found themselves at Red Wing, where a number of fellow countrymen had already settled. Hearing of the good lands about Holden, they made the trip to that township, going mostly by foot. There the father engaged in farming for six years, having the usual trying experiences and privations of the early pioneer days. At first the family lived in a dug out, and later built a log cabin. At the time of the Indian outbreak, it was often rumored that bands of the bloodthirsty savages were headed toward Goodhue county, and night after night, a little band of immigrants, consisting of five or six families, would gather in the dugout armed with pitchforks, axes and other weapons, while the children, filled with fear of the savages in a strange country, cried all night. But the scare passed, and life moved on in its accustomed channels. In 1867 the Anderson family came to Havana township. The trip from Holden to Rice Lake, Havana township, was made by ox team. Sloughs and marshes impeded their progress, and the trip through Rice Lake woods was made over an old corduroy road of logs, the wagon bumping from one log to another. Reaching their destination, the father purchased eighty-eight acres of mixed prairie and timber land in section 28, adding to this from time to time and improving the whole until he had a fine farm of 165 acres. On this farm, Thomas M. passed his boyhood and received his education in the district school. His school days over, he assisted his father on the home farm until the latter's retirement in 1883, when he purchased the home place, on which he has followed general farming ever since. Mr. Anderson is a staunch believer in up-to-date agriculture, and aided by modern buildings and equipment, has developed one of the finest farms in the county. He is a stockholder in the Havana creamery. In politics he is a supporter of the Democratic party, and has always taken an active interest in public affairs, at present serving his tenth year as clerk of school district, No. 91. He has been



justice of the peace, constable and town overseer. He was postmaster of Lysne, on his farm, where the station of Anderson is now located, and at one time conducted the store at Anderson. Gov. John A. Johnson appointed him a delegate to the Farmers' National Congress, at Buffalo. He has been trustee of the Norwegian Lutheran congregation three years and secretary of the Norwegian Lutheran Church at Aurora four years. His wife and family are also loyal members of the Lutheran faith. Mr. Anderson is also one of the popular members of the Modern Woodmen of America. He was married June 25, 1884, to Anna Moe. To this union have been born twelve children, all of whom are living, Mary, wife of Alfred Anderson, a traveling salesman of Mankato; Alma, of Mankato; Hattie, who lives at home; Clare, of Watertown, S. D.; Louise, now wife of L. W. Thompson, a hardware merchant, of Denhoff, N. D.; Melsien, Arthur, Myrtle, Ervin, Ruben, Esther and Bernard. Mons Anderson, father of Thomas M., died on the old farm, December, 1898. The mother lives with her son.

**Lars Anderson**, a successful farmer of Summit township, was born in Denmark, December 7, 1851, son of Anders Hansen and Carrie Christiansen, his wife, who lived and died in the old country. Lars received his education in Denmark and came to America in 1873. For a time he worked on a farm in Dodge county by the month, and came to Steele county in 1877. He first purchased eighty acres in Summit township, and later added eighty more, making a fine farm of 160 acres, which he now conducts. His land is well tilled and his buildings neat and well kept, his stock being looked after in a humane and scientific manner. Mr. Anderson was married March 19, 1877, to Anna S. Nelsen, and to this union have been born six children: Mary, the wife of Lewis Larsen, of North Dakota; Sena, the wife of George Larsen, of North Dakota; Carl W. and Anton S., of Summit township, and Dora J. and Arnold V. at home. The family faith is that of the Lutheran church, and Mr. Andersen votes the Republican ticket.

**L. G. Campbell**, president and manager of the milling company at Owatonna, that bears his name, was born at Northfield, Rice county, Minnesota, September 16, 1862, to John and Catherine (Graham) Campbell, the former a native of Scotland and the latter of Canada. The father settled at Milwaukee, Wis., in 1852, and for a time was engaged as a railroad contractor. He afterwards settled on a farm near Northfield, Rice county Minnesota, and carried on general farming till 1868. He then moved to Claremont in Dodge county, and engaged in the same occupation, giving special attention to grain and stock raising till 1889, when he moved to Austin, Minn., where he and his wife

now reside, 1910. Our subject was educated in the public school's in Dodge county and at Pillsbury Academy, and after leaving home engaged in railroad contract work. In 1886, in company with his brother, under the name of Campbell Brothers, he turned his attention to the milling business at Austin till 1894. The firm also took a mill at Blooming Prairie, of which Mr. Campbell has had the management till 1909, when the L. G. Campbell Milling Company at Owatonna was organized, and incorporated with L. G. Campbell, president; T. H. Kelly, vice president; E. G. Campbell, secretary and T. R. Kelly, treasurer. The company conducts an extensive business, and has a far reaching influence, its output being six hundred barrels per day, and its products being shipped throughout the states of Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois and other sections of the Northwest, also to New York and the New England States, while its export trade reaches London, Amsterdam, and other European markets. Mr. Campbell is a wide-awake and thorough man of affairs and takes an active interest in matters outside of his private business. At Blooming Prairie he served two years as president of the city council, and also on the city school board. He is also a Mason of high standing. In politics he adheres to the principles of the Republican party, and in his religious belief is a Presbyterian. In August, 1885, Mr. Campbell married Janet McMartin, whose parents, Peter and Conlin McMartin, removed from Scotland, their native land, to Canada. Thence they came to Claremont, Minn., and settled on a farm, being among the early settlers of that section, and there passed their lives. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell have four children, of whom Edward G., the eldest, is connected with the milling company; John S., is a student at Macalester College, while Margaret G. and Lawrence M. are pupils in the Owatonna High School.

**John R. Carroll.** Among those whose lives are worthy of being recorded in this book, as examples of hard work and progress to the younger generation, is the subject of this sketch. He was born in Canada, July 11, 1846, and in 1863 came with his parents to Dane county, Wisconsin. In 1876 he came to Austin and worked in the railroad shops for the C. M. & St. P. Ry., for one and a half years. Then he came to Steele county and lived in Meriden township five years. At the close of this period he had saved enough from his earnings to purchase 100 acres in Summit township, in addition to 100 acres which his wife received from her father, Jeremiah Foley, one of the pioneers. This farm of 200 acres he has developed and improved, bringing it to a high stage of cultivation. The well kept land and the comfortable buildings makes the farm one of the best in the immediate neighborhood. Mr. Carroll is a Democrat in politics,

and has served as supervisor of Summit township three years and as chairman of the board five years. He is a director of school district No. 95 and a stockholder in the Security State Bank, of Owatonna. Mr. Carroll was married in January, 1876, to Anna Foley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jeremiah Foley, the early settlers. Ten children have blessed the Carroll home, William, of Ellendale; Mamie, wife of Christopher Lynard, of Summit township; Nellie, a school teacher; Arthur, who is at home; Myrtle and Mabel, twins, students at the Owatonna High School; George, Irene and Ida. Alvin is dead. The family faith is that of the Roman Catholic Church. Roger and Mary (Galagher) Carroll, parents of John R. Carroll, were natives of Ireland. They located in Canada in 1845, and in 1863 took up their residence in Dane county, Wisconsin, engaging in farming the remainder of their lives. Both are deceased.

**John Hobenschild**, one of the well liked farmers of Summit township, was born in Austria, November 25, 1855 and came to America thirty years later, locating in Steele county, on sixty acres of land, which he purchased in Aurora township. Two years later he came to Berlin township and rented the Lord Brothers farm. In 1897 he purchased 920 acres in Summit township, known as the Kelley farm. This tract of land he has developed and greatly improved, and has carried on farming with great success. In addition to this, he and his son own a complete set of ditching machinery, which they work with throughout the township, in addition to conducting the farm. Mr. Hobenschild is a Democrat in politics and attends the Catholic church. He owns stock in the Farmers' Elevator and the Farmers' Creamery at Ellendale. Mr. Hobenschild was married in October, 1877, in Austria, and to this union have been born a goodly number of children, eight of whom are living. Joseph assists his father in conducting the farm; Theresa is the wife of Frank Hondl, of Aurora township; Carolina is the wife of Anton Hondl, of the same township; John, Anton, Leopold, Frances and Ida live at home.

**Nels Jergensen** has successfully conducted the Deloss Higbee farms for over thirty years, and his agricultural methods have been successful during all of that long period. He was born in Denmark, October 25, 1852, and after receiving his education in that country, learned the weaver's trade. In 1873 he came to America, located in Summit township, Steele county, and took up general farming. In addition to the 520 acres, which he so admirably manages, he owns a small tract of forty acres in his own name. For twenty-five years he has been breeding up to a high grade of Shorthorn cattle, and his fine herd is now one of the prides of the township. With this herd, Mr. Jergensen

makes a specialty of dairying. He is a Republican in politics, has been supervisor of the township and director of the school board several years. He is a stockholder in the Ellendale creamery and in the Farmers' Elevator. The subject of this sketch was married August 30, 1873, to Karen Kerstine, of Denmark. Of their ten children, seven are living. George is dead; Hannah is Mrs. R. P. Nelson, of Blooming Prairie township; Mary is Mrs. M. W. Nelson, of Minneapolis; Harvey, who married Anna Casperson, now deceased, lives at home; Turvel lives in Waterloo, Iowa; Peter and Ida live at home; Arthur, twin of Ida, is dead; Emma is a dressmaker at home, and Arthur, the second, is dead. The family faith is that of the Lutheran Church. Jergen Nelson and Marie Jacobson, his wife, parents of Nels Jergensen, were natives of Denmark. The mother died in 1854, and the father is still living in Denmark at the good old age of 81 years.

**Henry Kruckeberg**, a prominent farmer of Steele county, his birthplace, was born December 14, 1858, a son of Fred Kruckeberg. A sod shanty was his boyhood home, his education being the best obtainable from the district schools at that time. His father was a large landowner, at one time, possessing 1,000 acres, and after leaving school, he helped him with the farming of a portion of it for a few years before engaging in farming on his own account. He is now the owner of 450 acres, eighty in Aurora and the remainder in Dodge county, and carries on general farming on a large scale with much success, his up-to-date equipment and buildings being of much assistance. Dairying is extensively engaged in, a large herd of Durham cattle supplying milk of the best quality to a near by creamery, of which Mr. Kruckeberg is one of the largest shareholders. Poland China and DuRoch Jersey hogs are an important factor. In politics, he is a loyal adherent of the Republican party, but has never aspired to public office, his other affairs taking all his time and attention. During 1885 he was married to Ida Day, daughter of Jacob and Mary Ann Day. They have seven children: Delorma is a drayman at Owatonna, and Stella, Ezra, Rachael, Elmer, Harold and Willard all live at home. Lizzie, Esther, Myrtle and another child, who died in infancy, are deceased. The family are loyal attendants of the Lutheran Church.

**James J. Lea** is one of the men who have assisted in building up the farming interests of Summit township. He was born in Norway, January 4, 1849, there received his education, and in 1871 came to America, locating for a time in Freeborn county. He purchased 174 acres and farmed thereon until 1879, when he came to Steele county and purchased eighty acres in Berlin township. He later sold that and purchased 163 acres in sec-



tion 28, Summit township, erected buildings, improved the land and made other modern improvements, now carrying on general farming successfully. He has been constable, and has served many years on the school board of his district, being a thorough believer in education. To his union with Carrie Anderson, whom he married February 20, 1874, twelve children have been born: Johnnie is dead; Henry is a farmer in Berlin township; Christina is the wife of Andrew B. Lea, of Goodhue county; Joseph is a farmer in Berlin township and Annie, Ola, Jennie, Carl, Emma, Mary and Clara are at home. The family religion is that of the Lutheran Church. John and Anna (Peterson) Lea, parents of James J. Lea, were natives of Norway, where the father died. The mother came to America in 1877 and lived with her children until her death in 1894.

**John Richmond Morley**, one of Minnesota's distinguished citizens, is known far and wide for the interest he has taken in the pure food laws, and his efforts in behalf of the dairymen of Minnesota, being at the present time president and general manager of the Minnesota Co-Operative Dairies' Association. He was born in Onondaga county, New York, November 19, 1850, and at the age of nine years was brought to Wisconsin by his parents in 1860. In 1868 he came to Steele county, remained here until 1872, then went to Illinois in the Chicago & Northwestern Railway service, remaining there until 1883, when he returned to Steele county and purchased his present farm. He now owns a model dairy farm, and is one of the foremost exponents of modern dairying methods in this state. In his official capacity with the Co-Operative Dairies he has actively worked for the interests of the creameries throughout the state. During his seven years of service from 1902 to 1909, as secretary of the Minnesota State Dairymen's Association, he did much toward making that organization the power that it now is. In politics, Mr. Morley is a staunch supporter of the Republican party, and as a member of the lower house of the Minnesota Legislature from 1901 to 1905, he did the state distinguished service. The Knights of Pythias count him as a loyal brother. October 16, 1872, Mr. Morley was married to Emma C. Searl, by whom he has four children: Mrs. Mary C. Annett, of Owatonna; Mrs. Ida Maude Foster, of Clark, S. D.; Mrs. Alice E. Scram, of Owatonna, and Edith C. Morley, also of Owatonna.

John S. and Corinthia S. (Richmond) Morley, parents of John R. Morley, were natives of Onondaga county, New York, being of English and Welsh descent, respectively. They moved to Wisconsin in 1860 and came to Steele county in 1868. The grandparents of Mr. Morley came from England and were among the pioneer settlers of Onondaga county.



**Axel Nelson**, a well known resident of Summit township, lives on the farm where he was born, October 29, 1879. He received his education in the district school, and farmed with his father, still remaining on the home farm, and looking after his mother's interests. In addition to this he rents 150 acres, and carries on farming in an able maner, being one of the successful men of the vicinity. He is a Republican in politics, and a member of the Lutheran Church. He has been clerk of school district No. 56 since reaching the age of 21 years. He was a member of the Republican county committee two years. His particular pride is in his fine herd of Durham cattle and his drove of Poland China hogs. Jacob Nelson and Jane Jergenson, his wife, were born in Denmark and came to this country in 1877. One year later they purchased eighty acres in section 25, Summit township, made many improvements and built a home, conducting farming for many years. The former died July 17, 1904, and the latter still owns the old place. In the family were eight children: Emma, Nora, Anna, Olga, Alma, Sarah, Ella and Axel, the latter of whom manages the farm for his mother.

**Jens C. Petersen**, who owns a fertile farm in Blooming Prairie township, was born in Denmark September 3, 1855, son of Peter Jensen and Patrena (Andreasen), natives of Denmark, where they were both born and died. Jens received his education in the schools of Denmark and at the age of twenty years, in 1875, immigrated to America, locating first in Illinois, where he remained for two years following cement work and mining. In 1876, he went to Iowa, where he was engaged in railroad work. In the month of December, 1877, he came to Minnesota, locating at Owatonna, in the spring of the following year he moved to Blooming Prairie township, where he first worked by the month at the rate of \$18, he then purchased 180 acres of land and engaged in farming until 1887. At this time he sold the farm and went to Colorado, where he worked for the Union Pacific Railroad one year. He then returned to Steele county and purchased 120 acres of land, on which he farmed until 1895. Again selling his land, he repurchased 120 acres in Blooming Prairie township, sections 26 and 27, where he has followed diversified and general farming ever since. Mr. Petersen was married March 25, 1882, to Hattie F. Thimsen. Their home is blessed with nine children, viz.: Peter J., Julia A., now Mrs. Dowd, living in Charles City, Iowa; Jessie J., Geo. J., Charles J., William J., Patrena J., Hans C. and Jay C. Mr. Petersen is Democratic in his political views. He is a member of the Lutheran Church. He is also a member of the A. F. A. M., M. W. A., and the Danish Brotherhood. He has served his township as justice

of peace for twenty years, and is still serving, and many are the people that has been guided by his good advice. He has been assessor for fourteen years, which office he still holds, and he has also served on the school board in his district. He is also interested in co-operative enterprises and has been director in the Dearfield Mutual Fire Insurance Company for seven years, and also was one of the organizers of the first Co-Operative Creameries in Blooming Prairie township, now called the Union Creamery. Mr. Petersen is a good citizen, has made all by his own hard work, and is highly respected by all who know him.

**Peter Pribyl**, a substantial agriculturalist of Summit township, was born in Bohemia, in May, 1859, and received his education in the schools of that country. In 1866 he came to America and lived in Somerset township, Steele county, two years. Then he came to Summit township and purchased a farm of 200 acres, 120 acres in section 11 and eighty acres in section 12. He developed this land, erected buildings, and made many improvements, making the place one of the excellent farms of the county. He is now engaged in general farming with great success. He holds stock in the Summit creamery, votes the Democratic ticket, and belongs to the Catholic Church and the St. Joseph Society. To his union with Matilda Kubecek, whom he married in September, 1890, have been born six children: Peter, Jr., Frank, Charles, Mary, Joseph and Henry.

**William L. Smith**, now deceased, was for many years one of the capable and highly regarded farmers of Summit township. He was born in Ohio in 1843, son of John W. and Susan (Shabo) Smith. The mother died in 1849 and the father, after marrying again, came West in 1858 with his family, and located in Summit township, engaging in farming until his death in 1893. William L. grew to manhood on the farm, and as he reached manhood purchased eighty acres of land. In 1867 he married Mrs. Julia A. Russell, a widow, who also purchased eighty acres of land. Mr. Smith worked this farm of 160 acres in Summit township until his death January 2, 1880. He is survived by seven children: James A., Robert P. and John W., farmers in Summit township; Elizabeth, now Mrs. Charles Gordon, of Canada; George E., a farmer in Summit township; Charles P., who works with his mother, and Sarah, wife of E. Koffman, of Canada. Mr. Smith was a Democrat in politics, and a member of the Universalist Church.

Mrs. Julia A. Smith was born in Indiana, October 29, 1835, She married Enos Russell, who was killed in 1864 in the service of the United States Army, leaving two children. She was married in 1867 to William L. Smith, and has seven children





DR. E. E. BIGELOW

by this union. Since Mr. Smith's death she has managed the farm herself, and has proven a most capable business woman. She has increased the farm until she has 320 acres in the home farm, aside from a quarter section that one of her sons is working. Mrs. Smith is highly esteemed among her neighbors.

**A. J. Young**, a native of Merton township, where he is now a thriving farmer, was born October 25, 1872. His education begun at the district school, was supplemented by four years of study at Pillsbury Academy, Owatonna. Leaving school he has ever since engaged in farming. In 1898, Mr. Young rented his father's farm, on which from that time, he has been busy in tilling the soil and caring for his live stock. His especial interest is in Holstein cattle and Percheron horses. He was married to Lydia Greeley, daughter of James and Amelia Ribstein Greeley, in 1898. Three children bless their home: Clarence, Jay and Loleita. A Republican in politics and an attendant upon the Methodist Episcopal Church, Mr. Young has been active in local affairs, serving as treasurer of the school district for a number of years and also as township road overseer. He owns stock in and is a director of Merton Creamery, and is also director and stockholder of the Merton Rural Telephone Company.

James R. Young and his wife, Ellen Wilson, parents of A. J. Young, came to Minnesota in 1861, and located on a homestead claim of 160 acres in Merton township. Mr. Young was a native of New York, while his wife was born in England. In 1863, he enlisted as a soldier in the Civil War, in Company C, Second Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the rebellion, when he was honorably discharged. Returning home, he worked on his farm until 1898, when he moved to Owatonna, where with his wife he still lives.

**Edward Elisha Bigelow**, the oldest physician and surgeon residing in Owatonna, was born in Akron, Ohio, July 1, 1842, his father being a descendant of the Bigelow and Sumner families of Massachusetts, Connecticut and Vermont, emigrating from the latter state to Akron with his parents at the age of 18 years; his mother was a daughter of Dr. Jacobs of Elmira, N. Y.; both families spring from purely English blood. His mother died in 1848, leaving a family of eight children, four boys and four girls, he being the fifth born to the family. In 1850 he joined his father, who had emigrated to Lake Mills, Wis., and there received a common school and academical education and was prepared for college work when the war of the rebellion interrupted and he enlisted in the fall of 1861 with what was known as General Fremont's body guards and went to rendezvous at Milwaukee, from whence the company went to St. Louis and



reported to Gen. Fremont. He was finally rejected as being unfit for service and returned home. Determined to make another trial, in July, 1862, he procured a commission to recruit a company of infantry and soon, being joined by an old friend, C. H. Bryant, who afterwards became the captain of the company, and who had just completed a three-months' service, the two soon secured a full complement of volunteers and organized the company which subsequently became Company D of the Twenty-ninth Regiment Wisconsin Volunteers, in which he was a sergeant.

From the over exertion, the subject of this sketch was prostrated and taken to the post hospital at Helena, Ark., army measles followed and, in turn pneumonia and a relapse of the same, lying in the hospital at Helena during the months of January, February and March, 1863, then removed to Memphis Hospital, where he was finally discharged from service by a general order, extended to all similar cases, and returned to his home in the North under the care of the sanitary board conducted by the ever-to-be-remembered soldiers' friend, Mrs. Governor Harvey of Wisconsin, who had, after the death of the governor, dedicated her service to the caring for the sick and disabled soldiers.

In the procuring of sanitary stores and forwarding them to the front so that he felt that he had been able to do a fraction of good in the cause. In the winter of 1864 and 1865 he taught the village school of Milford, Wis., and in September following entered the University of Michigan, from which he received the degree of Doctor of Medicine and Surgery in March, 1867, having while a student at the university been honored by the position of an assistant to the demonstrator of anatomy, professor of anatomy and professor of gynecology and diseases of women and children. Though there were no paid assistants at the university, as such, except in a few instances, the experience received in that capacity was of priceless value to the doctor in after life in enabling him to render better service to his patrons. After leaving the university he immediately began work at the village of Milan, a few miles south of Ann Arbor, that he could continue in close touch with the university and add knowledge from an association with the teachers of the institution as a member of the Washtenaw County Medical Society, where advanced papers were read and discussed by them. At Milan he immediately entered upon a large and lucrative practice, his old teachers ever ready to render good council when needed.

During his sojourn in Michigan he met Miss Ella A. Eeles (an English lady), of Waterloo, N. Y., and on July 5, 1877, was united with her in marriage and moved to Owatonna, Minn.

He is actively associated with James A. Goodwin Post, Grand Army of the Republic, and was a charter member at its organization.

The doctor has served sixteen years upon the Owatonna United States board of pension examining surgeons, which through his instrumentality was established at Owatonna, and is still a member of the board. In 1864 he joined the Christian Church, there not being a church of that denomination in Owatonna; and believing that every person should be identified with some form of a Christian church organization, joined the Methodist Episcopal denomination and in later years, with his family, united with the First Congregational Church. He is a member of Steele County Medical Society, the Southern Minnesota Medical Society, the Minnesota State Medical Society, the American Medical Association, and was an accredited member of the ninth session of the International Medical Congress held at Washington, D. C., in 1887, from which he received full and voluminous reports of the complete papers read before the congress by the representative members of the medical and surgical profession of the world. In early life, the doctor became a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Masonic fraternities; many years ago was honored by being promoted to the offices of high priest in Chapter 15, Royal Arch Masons, and eminent commander of Cyrine Commandery, No. 9, Knights Templar, at Owatonna, and at the age of 68 years is still an active member of the Masonic Orders, and also a member of Osman Temple, Ancient Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine at St. Paul, Minn.

Among the papers contributed upon medical topics he has stood staunchly in favor of advanced sanitation and as early as in 1875 read a paper before the Washtenaw County Medical Society at Manchester, Mich., in support of what at the time was called his pet theory "that tuberculosis was a contagious disease and that all cases should be isolated and be placed under governmental control before its ravages could be brought under subjection," a theory he has always since held and from time to time advocated before medical associations, and while the different states are now rendering aid in that direction he still believes it to be the general government's duty to take the matter in hand and give its full force to the end that the disease may be wiped from our country. Dr. Bigelow was always enterprising in doing his full part in the upbuilding and beautifying the city of Owatonna, and for a time owned and published the Owatonna Daily and Weekly Journal.

**Edward T. Archibald** is a native of Canada, and came to the United States in 1856, and located in Rice county, Minn., where he remained a short time, and subsequently went to Hastings, where he engaged in the real estate business. His brother, John S., came to Rice county in 1857 and purchased about 1,100 acres of land where the present village of Dundas is located, and in the spring of the same year built a dam across the Cannon river, and erected a flour mill, which was the second mill of its kind in the county, the first having been built by Hon. John North, at Northfield, the previous year. The mill was of small capacity and was built for custom trade, and was conducted by John S. until 1865, when Edward T. bought a half interest, and the mill was rebuilt in 1870, with better equipments of machinery and a capacity of 800 barrels per day. In 1894 this mill was destroyed by fire, and they decided not to rebuild, but sold the site. The brothers operated another mill on the Little Cannon river, known as the Oxford mill, which was built in 1867, and was sold in 1875. Mr. Archibald's son bought half interest in a flour mill which was located on Third street, St. Paul, in 1878, in partnership with Mr. Shurmier, the firm name being Archibald & Shurmier, which they operated for about two years. Mr. Archibald was married in 1848 to Jane Morse, of Hammond, St. Lawrence county, New York, and they had two sons, both of whom are dead. They were John and Frank. Mrs. Archibald died in 1882, and the only living relative of Mr. Archibald is Alice, daughter of his son John. Mr. Archibald is a prominent man in the county, and was one of the incorporators of the First National Bank of Northfield, and also one of the directors. He was at one time a stockholder and director in the First National Bank of St. Paul. He was born June 14, 1827.

**Walter K. Adams**, banker, was born in East Prairie, Walcott township, March 4, 1864, son of Thomas C. and Georgia (Vose) Adams, early pioneers. He received his education in the district schools of Walcott, and in the public schools of Faribault. He entered Carleton college in 1883, and left that institution in 1886, taking up farming on the old homestead. In 1891 he entered the employ of the Sheffield Milling Co., as bookkeeper two years, then purchased the old homestead and again engaged in farming until 1900, when he was elected county auditor. He served until 1904, then went to Montana and engaged in the banking business at Sidney, Dawson county, organizing the Sidney National Bank in company with Thomas C. Gardner, of Faribault. Mr. Adams served at one time as town clerk in the town of Walcott. He is a high degree Mason and belongs to the Knights of Pythias and the United Workmen. He was married September 4, 1889, at East Prairie, Minn., to Elizabeth C. Herrington, daughter of

Elias and Mary Herrington, the former of whom is now dead while the latter lives in North Dakota. To Mr. and Mrs. Adams were born four children: Georgia K., Mabel J., Mary E. and Winnifred.

Thomas C. Adams and Georgia (Vose) Adams, his wife, were early pioneers, greatly esteemed in their community. They were born in Vermont, came to Minnesota in 1859, located in East Prairie, Walcott township, took a homestead of 160 acres, broke and improved the land, and continued farming until 1889. They then came to Faribault, lived four years, and subsequently went to Louisiana, which is now their home. Thomas C. Adams was closely connected with the politics of Rice county. He was county commissioner four years, supervisor many years in Walcott township, prominent in his school district and town treasurer during the war period.

**George L. Anderson**, Faribault manufacturer, was born in Stillwater, Minn., November 30, 1880, son of Axel and Hannah Anderson, whose sketch will appear elsewhere. He came to Faribault at the age of four with his parents and here received a public school education. After leaving school he followed clerking for one year and then took up butter making at Forest Creamery one year to learn the business, then in the Grant Creamery of Faribault for five years. In April, 1904, he went to Wayzata and engaged in machine work for the Campbell Motor Co., until 1905. He then entered the employ of Rawson & Anderson, of the Faribault Machine Shop and Foundry. June 1, 1905, he and his brother, Axel R., purchased the interest of Mr. Rawson, and since then it has been known as the Anderson & Son Machine Shop and Foundry, George L. becoming secretary and treasurer, which position he has since occupied. Mr. Anderson lives on West Third street. He is a Republican in politics and belongs to the Maccabees. He attends the Methodist church. Mr. Anderson has risen in life by his own efforts and deserves much credit for the place he has carved out for himself in the business life of Faribault.

**John J. Alexander**, now deceased, was one of the early pioneers of Rice county, where he came in June, 1854, with his father, and established a home in what was then a wilderness, but lived to see it blossom into beautiful farms, of verdant fields and substantial homes. It is said that they built the first house between Hastings and Faribault. Mr. Alexander was a lifelong farmer, and became very prominent and influential in the county, where he held several important offices, and also represented his district in the state Legislature, to which he was elected in 1888. He was a man of quiet habits and domestic taste, and who loved his home above everything else. He was born in Erie county,



New York, February 15, 1833, son of Jonathan and Lydia (Davis) Alexander. The father was born in Vermont in 1801, and died in 1887 in Rice county. In the Alexander home was a family of seven children: Mrs. Joseph Wise, of Sharon, Wis.; Mrs. John Lamphere, of Northfield; John J. (deceased), and the subject of this sketch; Jonas, of Washington; Mrs. Sylvester Shirpey, of Northfield; Ira, deceased; Mrs. Charles Holt, deceased. John J. Alexander remained at home until his marriage, which occurred May 1, 1855, to Mary Ann Lake, who was born in Rock County, Wis., January 24, 1836, daughter of Stewart and Miranda (Willis) Lake, and they were the parents of two children: John Palmer, born March 9, 1857, and James W., born June 13, 1863. Mr. Alexander was a lifelong Democrat and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He died February 11, 1891, and his wife resides in Northfield in a home which she built in 1907.

**James W. Alexander**, of Northfield township, was born on the farm where he now resides, June 14, 1863, son of John J. Alexander and Mary Ann (Lake) Alexander. He received his education in the public schools of Northfield, and completed his studies with a high school course, and after finishing his education he took up farming at home and has since remained, carrying on general farming. He was married November 11, 1884, to Frona Chamberlain, who was born at Honesdale, Penn., January 25, 1866, daughter of Hiram and Mary (Kimble) Chamberlain, natives of Pennsylvania. The father was born in 1821, and the mother in 1841. They spent their entire lives in their native state, the father dying in 1867 and the mother in 1905. Mr. and Mrs. Alexander have two children: Mary Ellen, born May 22, 1887, and James G., born October 19, 1891. Mr. Alexander, like his father before him, is a firm believer in the principles of the Democratic party, and although never having sought or held public office, is always interested in the affairs of the community. He is a stockholder in the Farmers' and Merchants' Elevator at Northfield, of which he is also the president, which office he has held since 1901. Fraternally he is associated with the A. O. U. W. and the Social Lodge, No. 48, A. F. & A. M.

**Henry F. C. Albers**, a prosperous and well-to-do farmer of Bridgewater township, was born in Bridgewater, December 21, 1861, to Henry and Christinia (Clute) Albers, natives of Germany. His father, a farmer in his native land, came to America in 1853 and located near Milwaukee, Wis., where he remained until 1855; he then came to Minnesota, driving across the country with an ox team, and located in Bridgewater township, Rice county, where he preempted land in section 31 and on which he has carried on general farming and made extensive improve-



ments. He also served in Company H, Fourth Minnesota Regiment, during the Civil War. Our subject attained his education in district schools of Bridgewater. After leaving school he worked on a farm and in 1892 bought 120 acres of land, to which he has added additional purchases until he now has a farm of 280 acres, well cultivated and up to date in every respect. He also has 160 acres in St. Louis county. In addition to carrying on farming successfully, he also conducts a lumber yard at Dundas, Minn. Mr. Albers was married November 15, 1894, to Miss Louisa, daughter of Aug. and Catherine (Suess) Zimmerman, natives of Germany, who in 1881 came to America and located in Bridgewater township, from whence they later moved to Northfield township, where they still live. Mr. and Mrs. Albers have seven children, named in respective order of their birth: Freemont, Clarence, Hattie, Frances, Edward, Carl and Harold, all living at home. Mr. Albers affiliates with the Democratic party. In religious faith he, with his family, adheres to the German Moravian church at Northfield. He is also a member of the United Workmen. Besides conducting his own business successfully, Mr. Albers is a public spirited man, and has done a good deal to promote the welfare of his community. He is a stockholder and director in the Farmers Elevator Company, in Northfield Telephone Company, stockholder in Forest Creamery Company, and stockholder in Independent Harvester Company, of Plano, Ill. He has filled a number of local offices, such as assessor, which office he filled for five years, also supervisor and justice of the peace.

**W. Ward Allen**, of the Sheffield-King Milling Company, was born in Oswego, N. Y., April 15, 1855, son of H. B. and Artemecia Allen, natives of New York state, where the father followed milling in his adult days, dying in January, 1905. His wife, the mother of W. Ward, is still living in Oswego, N. Y. The subject of this sketch received his early education in his native city and then attended the Academy at Mexico, in the same state. He then took up milling with his father until 1874. That year he came west and lived in River Falls, Wis., remaining until 1881. After working at his trade in Rush City, Minn., and Jordan, Minn., he came to Faribault in July, 1903, acquired an interest in the Sheffield-King Milling Company, and has since been its superintendent. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen and the Elks, and is a Republican in politics. His home is a pleasant residence at 610 Fourth street. Mr. Allen was married in September, 1881, at Mexico, N. Y., to Lillah E. Howard, of that place, daughter of George H. Howard. Mr. Howard died in March, 1910; Mrs. Howard died in December, 1906. Mr. and

Mrs. Allen have one son, Howard C., of Faribault, who is connected with the Faribault Gas and Electric Company.

**John P. Andrews**, nurseryman, of Faribault, has taken a deep interest in the agricultural development of Minnesota. He was born in Grant county, Wisconsin, December 16, 1846, and came to Faribault in 1864. After receiving a good education in the public schools he took up nursery work in fall, 1868, and in 1872 started in the nursery business, of which he has since made so great a success. He now owns 365 acres of good land, partly in the city limits, and has a wide trade for his output throughout the Northwest. His home is just outside the city limits. Mr. Andrews was married December 16, 1873, to Elizabeth Howard, of Hallowell, Maine. To this union have been born seven children: Charles H., with his father in the nursery business; Grace B., a graduate of the Agricultural college of the university of Minnesota, and now teaching in that institution; Elizabeth K., a graduate of the State university, wife of W. S. Weston, of Faribault; Eleanor G., a kindergartner; John K., a graduate of the Agricultural school of the State university, also interested in the nursery, married to Helen Dixon, of Mora, Minn.; Lulu D., stenographer, in nursery office; Rufus H., student. The family faith is that of the Congregational church. The parents of John P. Andrews were Daniel and Almira (Bacon) Andrews, natives respectively of New York state and Vermont. They migrated to Michigan, and in 1844 to Grant county, Wisconsin, and farmed there until 1863, when family came to Faribault, where the mother died in 1866. The father went South and in 1876 died there.

**Samuel B. Bauernfiend**, bookkeeper for the Citizens National Bank, was born in Wheeling township, Rice county, September 29, 1873, and received his education in the district schools. He remained on the home farm until attaining his majority, then came to Faribault, and became a bookkeeper in the dry goods store of Charles Hutchinson, for a period of three years. In partnership with H. W. Wolf, he then engaged in the dry goods business, but after two years sold out his interest to his partner, going to St. Paul and taking up the grocery business. After four years there sold out to S. Bosshardt and in 1905 returned to Faribault, where he became bookkeeper for the Security Bank. In the spring of 1908 he accepted a similar position with the Citizens National Bank, where he is now engaged. Mr. Bauernfiend is a Republican in politics, and a member of the Royal Arcanum and the Yeomen. He attends the Evangelical Association church. Mr. Bauernfiend is a self-made young man, highly esteemed by all who know him. He was married October 16,

1899, to Ida L. Wolf, born September 27, 1875, daughter of J. B. Wolf. To this union one son, Harry B., was born April 24, 1905.

**Martin Bauernfiend**, deceased, came to Rice county before the Civil War, and spent the span of his adult days here. He was born in Bavaria, October 16, 1849, and was brought by his parents to America at the age of nine years. They located for a time in Jefferson, Wis., and then came to Rice county, taking up farming in Wheeling township. Here Martin and his wife, Margaret, became highly esteemed citizens. Martin was an energetic and hard-working farmer, and successfully conducted farming operations, owning at the time of his death, August 3, 1904, 215 acres of land in Wheeling township and 160 acres in Todd county, this state. His widow now lives at Faribault. Mr. and Mrs. Martin Bauernfiend had fourteen children: Samuel B., bookkeeper for the Citizens Bank, Faribault; Aaron, of Sauk Center, Minn.; William H., of Wheeling township; Rachael, deceased; George, of Sauk Center, Minn.; Alvin J., of St. Paul; Arthur, living on the old homestead in Wheeling township; Jesse, deceased; Mandor, of St. Paul; and Sarah, Edna, Susan, Lillian and Sadie, who live with their mother. The family faith is that of the Evangelical Association.

**Paul Borehardt**, who is counted among the prosperous merchants of Morristown, Minn., has attained his position in the face of many obstacles, by persevering, hard work and a firm determination to succeed. He is a native of Germany and the youngest of a family of five children born to Karl and Pauline (Aldenburg) Borehardt. The father was a farmer by occupation and attained the age of eighty years, his death occurring in 1907, at Morristown. The mother died in Germany. Their other children are: John, who lives at Morristown; Lena, who is married to A. Severin, and lives at Detroit, Mich.; Herman, who is deceased, and Albert, who resides at Morristown. Paul came to this country in 1893 and began his life here working by the month for Robert Hedge, of Morristown. A little later he rented and worked John S. Hedge's farm, and still later worked for R. V. Hedge. During all this time he improved every spare moment studying and mastering the English language. Paul was successful in his farming and continued at it till 1905, when he turned his attention to the mercantile trade. In this he got little encouragement from others, who looked upon his venture as ill-advised. But he had faith in himself, and the results of his mercantile experience have shown the wisdom of his choice. He began in a modest way, opening a small store on Devishen street, opposite his present establishment, with a stock of general merchandise not to exceed two thousand dollars in value. At the same time he kept up his study of English. By careful

management and wise planning his trade prospered and soon outgrew the little place where he began, and at this date—1910—he has a splendid up-to-date store equipped in modern style, with a six-thousand dollar stock of finely assorted goods and an established trade that is constantly expanding. Mr. Borehardt is thoroughly progressive in his ideas and business methods, and he believes in keeping abreast of the times. He is a loyal member of the German Lutheran church. In Morristown Mr. Borehardt married Wilhelmina, daughter of Mathias Baur, a pioneer of the German colony of Rice county. Mr. and Mrs. Borehardt have six sons, named in the order of their births, respectively, Alvin, Werner, Arnold, Barnhard, Harold and Oswald.

**Oscar W. Ball**, proprietor of the carriage and wagon manufacturing establishment bearing his name, at Faribault, Minn., was born in Albany county, New York, July 25, 1851. His parents, Jacob and Anna (Stong) Ball, natives of New York and Germany, respectively, settled at Faribault in 1869, and there passed the remainder of their lives. The father was a blacksmith by trade. The mother died in 1871. Oscar W. passed his boyhood in his native place, and there attended the public schools and worked as a farmer boy. After the family settled at Faribault, he being then eighteen years old, he worked in the employ of Messrs. Andrews & Stafford some fourteen years, and in 1883 engaged in business on his own account as junior member of the firm of Westerveld & Ball, and continued that relation twenty-five years. In 1908 Mr. Ball purchased his partner's interest and since that time has carried on the business at the same stand in his own name with eminent success. Mr. Ball makes a specialty of the manufacture of carriages and delivery wagons and doing all manner of job, order and repair work in that line, having a fine establishment thoroughly fitted and equipped to meet the demands of his extensive trade. He has always been an industrious, hard-working man and enjoys his well-merited success. He is a Republican in political sentiment and action, and in religious matters and belief is affiliated with the Congregational church. He is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and has passed through all the chairs of the order. In 1885 Mr. Ball married Libby, daughter of C. A. and Elizabeth Sherwood. Mrs. Ball departed this life March 25, 1895, leaving one child, Harold S. Ball, of Faribault.

**Homer G. Best**, dairyman, living just outside the city limits of Faribault, was born in Nova Scotia, May 3, 1858, son of John B. and Isabelle (Woodworth) Best. He received his early education in Nova Scotia, and in 1880 came to Rice county. In 1887 he went back to the land of his birth, but in 1892 again came to Faribault, purchased a farm in Cannon City township, just out-



side the city limits. He sold this place and purchased a farm, where for the past ten years he has conducted dairy farming, retailing milk to the select trade of the city. He makes a specialty of raising high-grade Holstein cattle. While in Cannon City township Mr. Best served as path master and as assessor. He is a Republican in politics, and belongs to the Modern Woodmen. Mr. Best was married June 30, 1882, at Faribault, to Emma A. Shepard, daughter of Horace C. and Mary A. (Holt) Shepard, of Faribault. To this union have been born five children; Ethel is the wife of George A. Collard, of Valley City, N. D.; Harry V. manages the home farm; Ella B., a teacher, is a graduate of the Faribault High school; Walter F. assists his father on the farm; Ruth H. is still attending school. John B. and Isabelle (Woodworth) Best, parents of Homer G. Best, were natives of England, and came to Halifax, N. S., in the early days. They had ten children: Leverett E., of Berry Plain, Mass.; Homer G., of Faribault; Olive F., a physician, of Providence, R. I.; Clarence W., a farmer of South Dakota; Anna Belle, wife of J. C. Jenkins, of Collinsville, Conn.; Fenwick B., of Massachusetts; Herbert E., a physician of West Pembroke, Maine; Bertha Blanche, wife of Richard Hood, of Waltham, Mass.; Maude, wife of Grant Foot, who lives on the old homestead in Nova Scotia, and Lillian G., wife of the Rev. Harlim, president of the Toronto university, Toronto, Canada. Horace C. and Mary A. (Holt) Shepard, parents of Mrs. Best, were natives of Massachusetts. They came to Minnesota in 1869, located in Cannon City, and engaged in farming. The father died July 9, 1897, and the mother, December 6, 1892. Mrs. Best was born at Springfield, Mass., December 16, 1862. In the Shepard family there were six children: Lizette, deceased wife of Everett Sanborn; Herbert E., of Minneapolis; Emma A. Best; Edward B., of Faribault; Albert C., of St. Cloud, Minn.; Gazella, married to Oliver Thomas, of Canada.

**Andrew Jackson Bell**, for many years a prosperous merchant of Faribault, Minn., is a native of Berkshire, Mass., his date of birth being February 12, 1834. His boyhood was passed on his father's farm, receiving his education in the district schools, and later supplementing this with a course in the Jonesville Seminary of New York. After leaving school he clerked for a time in a grocery store and then taught school until his removal to St. Anthony Falls, Minn., September 17, 1854, being among the early pioneers of the state. Here he was engaged in driving team from Wayzata, on Minnetonka lake, to St. Anthony, for a year, and then moved to Steele county, where he used his right of pre-emption upon a quarter section of land which he somewhat improved and lived upon for a couple of years. Then selling it and



moved to Waseca county, again taking up the battle of life on a farm, and proving himself of the true pioneer stuff, capable of enduring the hardships of those early days. Mr. Bell remained engaged in the cultivation of his tract, and teaching school winters, until 1879, when he entered into the implement business in Faribault, Rice county, Minn., remaining in this line ten years and meeting with unusual success. His next venture was in flour, feed, seed and grain business, in which he is still engaged, together with his son, H. P., the firm being known as the Faribault Seed Company, the father acting as president and manager. The company is doing an extensive and flourishing business and its products are widely and favorably known throughout this section of the Northwest. In politics Mr. Bell adheres to the teachings of the Republican party, and is keenly interested in the welfare of his city and county. He served as assessor several years while in Warsaw township. The Masonic order numbers him among its loyal members. July 10, 1862, he was united in marriage with Eliza W. Patterson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Patterson, the father a prominent farmer of Warsaw township for many years. He is now deceased, as is his wife. Mrs. Bell died August 6, 1907, leaving five children, three others—Frank, Estey and Ellis—having previously died. The other children are: M. E., of Aberdeen, S. D.; Arthur G., of Tahoma Falls, Ore.; Armina J., now Mrs. T. B. Brown, of Faribault; Blanche E., of Faribault; and H. P., who is in partnership with his father. The family residence is on Fourth street. Mr. Bell also owns another residence on Lincoln avenue. The Methodist Episcopal church counts the family among their valued members. Alfred and Phoebe A. (Goodale), parents of our subject, were born and reared in Massachusetts; afterwards moved to Saratoga county, York state, where the father followed farming till his death, in 1842. His wife died in '65; was buried in South Egremont Cemetery, Bershire county, Massachusetts.

**Emery Russell Bloomer** was born in Morristown township, Rice county, Minnesota, April 4, 1872, and is a son of Colman and Sarah J. Russell Bloomer. Our subject's great-great-grandfather Bloomer was kidnaped in England and brought to America. He was a blacksmith and worked at his trade in New York, and there died at the age of one hundred and two years. William Bloomer, a grandson of this centenarian, was a native of New Jersey. He was a millwright and built a grist and saw mill on his large farm in Fayette county, Ohio, where he married Sarah nee Paul. They moved to Wabash county, Indiana, in 1839, and there died in 1846. William Bloomer's son, Coleman, our subject's father, was born in Fayette county, Ohio, March 15, 1834. He was left an orphan when twelve years old and had but

meager educational privileges. In the summer of 1855 he accompanied to Rice county, Minnesota, an invalid brother, who passed away June 20, 1856. Here he pre-empted and settled on the northwest quarter of section thirty-four, Morristown township, and has lived there continuously ever since, the place being known as Pleasant Ridge. In 1864 he enlisted in Company E, Eighth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteers, infantry, and under General Sulley helped to drive the Indians through the bad lands into Canada, and later served in the War of the Rebellion, being stationed at Charlotte, N. C. He has always taken a deep interest in religious affairs, and the first Methodist Episcopal church society and Sunday school in Morristown township was organized in his cabin in 1856 by the Rev. A. V. Hisscock. On December 20, 1859, he married Lydia C. Pool, who died July 7, 1866, leaving two children, viz.: Florence May and Ella Alice. On October 24, 1867, he married Mrs. Sarah J. (Russell) Soule and they have five children, named, respectively, Olive Patience, born September 20, 1868; our subject; Lee Coleman, born January 11, 1874; Jesse Hartwell, born February 27, 1881, and Lloyd Chester, born December 14, 1887. Mr. Bloomer is a strong advocate of temperance and both he and his wife are loyal members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

**Elmer Russell Bloomer.** Our subject acquired his education in the district schools of Morristown township and at the Fari-bault high school. On attaining his majority he located a homestead in South Dakota and lived there five years. Selling his interest there, he returned home and turned his attention to dairy farming on seventy acres which he bought in section twenty six, Morristown township. He has the place finely improved, well fenced and all under cultivation and well stocked. Mr. Bloomer has remodeled the barn, which has a capacity of thirty-five tons of hay, and built two splendid silos, twelve feet in diameter, with twenty-six-foot posts. He is a man of force and influence in the community and has been called to fill numerous local offices, among others, that of town clerk, by election four years and by reappointment to complete the unexpired term of Mr. Charles McKenzie. He is secretary of the Morristown Creamery, also holds membership in the Modern Brotherhood of America and is senior warden of Cannon River Lodge, No. 52, Morristown, of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. He is an earnest advocate of temperance, and since he was sixteen years old has been a loyal and active church worker. He was for a number of years in his earlier life identified with the Methodist Episcopal church, but after his marriage joined the Congregational church, with which he is now affiliated. On June 21, 1899, Mr. Bloomer married Miss Ger-

trude, daughter of George and Ella (Nichols) Davis. Mr. and Mrs. Bloomer have no children of their own, but have taken to raise and educate a brother and sister—Leslie and Edna. Mrs. Bloomer's father, a native of Vermont, was born in 1846, the son of John and Martha (Schofield) Davis, the former a native of New Hampshire and the latter of Vermont. The father, George Davis, moved from Vermont when he was fifteen years old, with his family, and settled in Warsaw township, Rice county, where he improved a fine farm and reared his family, and where he died about 1886. His wife died there about 1876. George Davis was the fourth child in order of birth of their family of two sons and three daughters, and succeeded to the family homestead, whence he moved to Morristown township, and from there to the village of Morristown in 1900.

**O. Benson**, one of the respected and well-to-do citizens of Northfield, Minn., was born in Sweden on August 11, 1834. On attaining his majority, in 1855, he came to the United States, and lived one year at Knoxville, Ill., whence he removed to Red Wing, Minn. While there he took up a claim near Cannon Falls. In 1858 Mr. Benson settled at Northfield, and owned a blacksmith shop and for eighteen years carried on a successful business. In 1876 he closed out his business and, going to Dakota county, purchased and settled on a farm of 340 acres in Sciota township, and for thirty years devoted himself to its improvement and cultivation with eminent success. Mr. Benson made a specialty of dairy farming and breeding fine stock, particularly Poland China hogs, and his place, with its modern equipment and appliances, came to be widely known as one of the model farms in the county. In 1906 Mr. Benson retired from his farm and took up his permanent residence in Northfield, in his commodious and pleasant home on Union avenue. In 1908 he sold a portion of his farm land, but still retains a quarter section, which he leases. Throughout his life Mr. Benson has been a hard worker and by wise management and thrift has acquired an ample competence, and richly deserves the esteem in which he is held by all who know him. He is an active member and generous supporter of the Swedish Lutheran church, and in all that related to the betterment of his community has always shown a commendable interest. In political sentiment he is a Republican, but in voting is not bound by party lines, always supporting the candidate whom he thinks best qualified and fitted for the office sought. In 1859 Mr. Benson married Betsy Johnson, and they have six children: Nels, Theodore, Oscar, Maude, Anna and Ella, all of whom are happily married and comfortably settled.

**Wilbur N. Bowman** is a native of Marquette county, Wisconsin, and was born June 2, 1862, to W. P. and Lestina (Boynton) Bowman, natives of New York. His father, a farmer by occupation, after the close of the war, in which he served, moved to Osage, Iowa, in 1865, and there bought a quarter section of land and carried on farming nine years. In 1874 he went to Clay county, Iowa, and was there engaged in the coal business and draying until his retirement, in 1897. He now lives at Spencer, in Clay county. The mother died in 1906. Wilbur N. received his schooling at Osage and Spencer and learned the printer's trade in the office of the "Spencer Reporter." Going to Dell Rapids, S. D., in 1883, he was there in the machinery business four years, and, selling out in 1886, he spent the next three years as traveling salesman for D. M. Osbourn & Co. After this he worked as a printer in various towns and cities, learning the linotypes in the office of the "Sioux City Tribune," Sioux City, Iowa. Later, associated with Mr. W. M. Dynes, bought the necessary machinery and under the firm name of Dynes & Bowman carried on a general linotype composition business one year. He then sold his interest in the business, and September 1, 1908, established himself at Faribault, where he has since continued as proprietor of the Faribault Composition Company, which does high class composition for the trade. Mr. Bowman is an active, energetic man, and takes an interest in various organizations, being a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the United Workmen. He is independent in his political opinions, and in religious matters is affiliated with the Congregational Church. On January 5, 1885, Mr. Bowman married Miss Nellie McKay, whose parents, Cyrus and Livia A. (Porter) McKay moved from Pennsylvania, their native state, to Decorah, Iowa, where they made their home and where the mother now resides. The father, who was an accountant by occupation, is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Bowman have had four children, of whom the eldest, Lyle, died in infancy; Clifford L. lives at Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, and Jessie Alice and Lloyd Porter live at home. Miss Jessie was graduated from the high school in 1910.

**Charles Bollenbach** was born in Wheeling, Cook county, Illinois, February 24, 1865. He is a son of M. and Magdeline (Barbaras) Bollenbach, natives of Germany, who came to America in 1855 and located in Cook county, Illinois. The father was a farmer by occupation and purchased a farm in that county, on which he did general farming up to 1893, when he retired and moved to Palatine, Ill., where he and his wife are still living. Charles Bollenbach was educated in the district



schools of Illinois, and after leaving school worked on his father's farm until he came to Minnesota, in 1886. He worked out for three years and then bought a farm of eighty acres, and later acquired an additional eighty acres, on which he still lives and carries on general farming and stock raising. He was married on June 4, 1891, to Hannah Knopf, a daughter of Adam and Louisa (Clump) Knopf, natives of New York state. He came to Illinois at an early day with his parents, where they lived until 1856, when he came to Minnesota and located in Wheeling township. He bought a farm and has carried on general farming up to the present time. Mrs. Knopf died in 1876. Two children have blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bollenbach: Milton H. and Lyle C., both living at home. In politics Mr. Bollenbach is a Republican. He has been mayor of Nerstrand since the village was incorporated, in 1897, and still holds that office. He has been treasurer of School District No. 111 since 1901, and is a director of the Farmers' State Bank.

**Helge A. Boe**, for many years a hardware merchant of Northfield, was born in Norway, at Vang, Walders, July 17, 1849, and in 1864 emigrated to America, going direct to Decorah, Iowa, where he entered the school and attended one year, after which he and his brother decided to come west, and walked the entire distance from Decorah to Northfield, where they secured employment for a time, after which they engaged in the hardware business, in 1879, in partnership with A. R. Manning, and continued for about fifteen years, when Mr. Boe bought his partners' interests and continued to conduct the business alone. Part of his present store, which fronts on Main street, was at the time of the Northfield robbery occupied by the First National Bank, and in this building Mr. Haywood was killed by the robbers. Mr. Boe has built up a large and prosperous business, and carries a complete stock of hardware. He also owns a farm in Bridgewater township, located about two and one-half miles from Northfield. He was married to Mary Lajord, a native of Norway, who was brought by her parents to America when an infant. Mr. and Mrs. Boe have had four children, one of whom died in infancy. Aslak M., Bertha A. and Anna I. The family faith is that of the Norwegian United Lutheran Church, of which they are regular attendants.

**Anders T. Brandvold**, holder of extensive real estate interests in Rice county, was born in Norway, April 7, 1846, and there received his earlier education, coming to America in 1862, at the age of sixteen years. He located first at Faribault, farmed two years, and then clerked for some time in a store. In 1869 he opened a general store and conducted same until



1888. The rich lands of North Dakota were then attracting general attention, and Mr. Brandvold decided to try his fortunes there. Accordingly, he shipped his goods to that state, and conducted the business a couple of years. Later he sold his stock and shipped horses to Dakota for a number of years and engaged in the real estate business. Mr. Brandvold always resided at Faribault, and though he is now practically retired, he still deals in real estate to some extent. Mr. Brandvold has been prominently identified with public affairs. He served on the school board ten years and was city treasurer of Faribault two years. He has been one of the trustees of St. Olaf College at Northfield twelve years and was cashier of the same institution four years. He is a trustee of Zion Lutheran church and has been treasurer of that institution since 1870. Andrew T. Brandvold was married July 10, 1877, in Goodhue township, this state, to Sissel Haugen, daughter of Knute and Martha (Austinson) Haugen, prominent farmers of Holden township, Goodhue county. To this union were born three sons. Arthur is a traveling salesman in California, Cornelius is in the laundry business in Faribault, and Gust O. is book-keeper in the Security National Bank, Faribault. The parents of A. T. Brandvold were Torkel and Gunver (Finseth) Brandvold, natives of Norway, the former of whom died at the age of ninety-seven years, and the latter at the age of ninety-five.

**Horace Everett Barron**, now deceased, came of a family of American patriots, noted in the annals of United States history, and himself added much to the family name by his life and work, more notably in connection with the public institutions here located. Business methods introduced by him are still in vogue in these institutions. Mr. Barron was a notable type of the true American gentleman. Of ancient and illustrious lineage, he was nevertheless of a democratic and affable nature, combining the best of the traditions of New England with the expansiveness and breadth of the northwest. His influence on the little hamlet of Faribault in the earliest days, and upon the city of Faribault in later years, has never fully been measured. He was born in Bradford, Vt., March 21, 1826, and spent his early boyhood on his father's farm, growing to sturdy boyhood and young manhood. An old-fashioned district school afforded him his first educational training, after which he attended Bradford Academy and Norwich University, becoming especially proficient in the mathematical branches. When about eighteen years of age he joined the engineering party that made the first survey of the railroad from White River Junction to Derby Line (in Vermont), and was thus engaged for four years, until the road was completed and the cars in

operation between White river and Wells river. The newspapers of the East were then filled with stories of the vast opportunities of the middle West, and in the fall of 1850 Mr. Barron went to Chicago, where for five years he was traveling representative for wholesale houses in that vicinity, traveling in the three states of Illinois, Indiana and Michigan. In October, 1855, he came to Faribault, then a straggling village with several log cabins and a very few frame dwellings. Strangers were coming into the city rapidly, and many who came to take up claims were locating in the village while waiting to go on their farms. Consequently, Mr. Barron saw an opening for a good hotel. Therefore he purchased a site, and in the spring of 1856 he erected the Barron House. In 1862 the death of his only brother, William T., necessitated his return to Chicago, to look after his brother's affairs. Two years were spent in settling the estate, and in 1864 Mr. Barron came back to Faribault, and again took up the active management of his hotel. In 1870 he built a stone addition to this house, leaving the frame part as an annex. The place became known as one of the finest of its day in Minnesota. In 1879 it was leased, and in March, 1881, it was destroyed by fire, the total loss being \$25,000, only \$12,000 being covered by insurance. The subject of this sketch held various municipal offices, and in 1874 was a member of the state legislature, serving as chairman of the committee on ways and means. He became a director of the state institution for the deaf, dumb and blind in Faribault, and served many years as president of the board of directors of that institution. In 1882, after the internal reorganization of the institute, Mr. Barron resigned as president and became steward and superintendent of construction. At the entire reorganization of the institution, under the name of the Minnesota Institute for Defectives, by the legislature of 1887, Mr. Barron retained this position, and served until his death, February 26, 1892. So highly were his services esteemed that Barron Hall, at the school for the deaf, was named in his honor. In politics Mr. Barron was a Whig. Later he became a Republican, and was a delegate to a number of conventions, although he never cared for political life, except on such occasions as would promote the interests of his friends. He was a member of the Episcopal church and a high degree Mason. Horace E. Barron was married February 22, 1876, in St. George's church, at St. Louis, Mo., to Kate Gray, born in Chicago, January 2, 1847, daughter of James L. Gray, a merchant on North Clark street, Chicago. James L. Gray died December 23, 1859, and his wife, Estelle (Cummings) Gray, of Virginia, died August 15, 1860. Mr. and Mrs. Barron had four children.

Marie, Elsie and Kate are dead. Mary G., born January 26, 1880, is a teacher in the Minnesota School for the Deaf.

William Trotter Barron, only and elder brother of Horace E. Barron, graduated from the University of Vermont and took up the practice of law in Chicago, being for several terms judge in Cook county. He was killed by a railroad accident at Kenwood Station, Chicago, in 1862.

William Barron, great-grandfather of Horace, was a scout during the French and Indian War, and commanded a company from Lyndeboro, N. H., in the Revolutionary War. He had seven brothers also in this war. He was born in Westford, Mass., and died in Lyndeboro, N. H., but the family originated from Watertown, Mass., the first of the name appearing on the records there in 1640.

Micah Barron, grandfather of Horace, was born in Tyngsboro, Mass., adjoining Chelmsford, in 1763; moved to Bradford, Orange county, Vermont, in 1788, and engaged in lumbering and farming. For twenty-three years he was sheriff of Orange county and was the man sent to Canada to arrest Stephen Burroughs, the noted counterfeiter and desperado. Micah Barron was at one time colonel of a regiment in the state militia, and rose to the rank of brigadier-general.

William Barron, father of Horace, was less than a year old when his parents moved to Bradford. The maiden name of his second wife, mother of Horace, was Hannah Davis Brooks, who had two brothers in the Canadian parliament. William Barron, like his father, served in the state militia, and rose to the rank of colonel. He was appointed by the first President Harrison to be United States marshal for the district of Vermont. He ended his days at Hartford, Conn., at the age of eighty-six years.

**George Buchanan**, supervisor of the township of Cannon City, was born in Harrison county, Ohio, December 1, 1857, and came to Cannon City township, Rice county, with his parents at the age of ten years. He received his education in the district schools, and has since continued farming on the home place, which consists of 120 acres. Before entering upon the duties of his present office he served several terms as supervisor. He was a member of the Minnesota National Guard for nearly five years. Mr. Buchanan is an estimable citizen in every respect and is held in high honor in the community where he has resided since early boyhood.

**William Buchanan**, and Jane Sloan Buchanan, his wife, natives of Pennsylvania, came to Cannon City township in November, 1867, and his widow is still living. Mr. Buchanan died in 1870. They had eight children: Evelyn, deceased;

Sarah J., of Cannon City village; Thomas; George; Addie, wife of Edward McKieby, of Bridgewater township; John, deceased; Annie, a school teacher, living at home, and Mary Elma, a stenographer and school teacher in California. The family religion is that of the Christian church.

**Amos H. Bice**, retired farmer, of Faribault, and veteran of the Civil War, was born in Sandusky, Ohio, August 25, 1846, and came to Wolcott township, this county, with his parents in 1859, as a youth of thirteen years. He received his education in the public schools and remained with his father until sixteen years of age, joining the Union Army August 13, 1862, twelve days before his birthday. He enlisted at Prairieville, joined his company at Northfield, and was mustered in at Ft. Snelling as a private in Company A, Seventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. He saw service for three years and was mustered out at Fort Snelling August 17, 1865. He then resumed farming with his father. In 1869 he bought forty acres in Walcott township, added land until he owned 120 acres, and successfully conducted farming operations until 1901, when he sold out to his son and retired, moving to Faribault. During his residence in Walcott township he served on the town board, was a member of the school board and served the town in other ways. He is a popular member of the Michael Cook Post, No. 123, G. A. R. Mr. Bice was married November 16, 1869, at Prairieville, to Sarah C. Cloce, born September 4, 1850, daughter of William Cloce, prominent resident of Richland township. Mr. Cloce was born September 9, 1827, and died April 12, 1893. Mrs. Cloce was born July 19, 1828, and is now residing at Faribault. To Mr. and Mrs. Bice were born three children: Cora C., born August 16, 1870, is the wife of Carl Swartwood, of Minneapolis; Mary E., born February 24, 1872, is the wife of O. V. Sherpy, of Northfield; George F., born June 16, 1874, owns the old homestead. He married Pearl Austin. The family faith is that of the Methodist church. The parents of Amos H. Bice were John and Mary (Johnson) Bice, natives of Pennsylvania. They came to Minnesota in 1859 and located in Walcott township, where they followed general farming. The father was born January 15, 1819, and died May 29, 1886. The mother was born February 3, 1825, and died October 10, 1868.

**James Buchanan**, a farmer, of Cannon City township, was born in West Middletown, Washington county, Pennsylvania, September 26, 1826, son of William and Sally (Piles) Buchanan, natives respectively of Maryland and Pennsylvania. The father was a shoemaker. He died in Cannon City township in 1881. His wife died in Pennsylvania in 1838. James received his early education in Pennsylvania, and then for several years farmed.



In 1843 he went to Ohio and engaged in farming until coming to Cannon City township in 1867. Since that date he has continued to follow farming. Mr. Buchanan is ripe in years and experience, and his advice is much sought after and highly valued by the younger generations. He was married in 1849, to Mary A. McElroy, who died September 26, 1905, leaving two daughters and a son. They are James, a meat dealer in California; Selina, wife of William Brown, and Sallie J., wife of Frank Sweet, manager of the county alms house. The family faith is that of the Christian church.

**J. W. Bollenbach**, a well known farmer, of Wheeling township, was born in Illinois April 7, 1870, to Michael and Lena Bollenbach, natives of Germany, who emigrated to America and located in Pennsylvania, where the father worked in a tannery and in the woods. He continued there until he came west to Illinois, engaging in farming, he remained there until 1895, when he retired from actual work of life and moved to Palentine, Ill., where he still lives. The mother is also living. The subject of this sketch was educated in the district schools of Illinois. He started life on his father's farm, where he remained until 1888. He worked out until 1891, and then came to Minnesota and located in Rice county, Wheeling township, where he worked on a farm until 1893. At this time he rented a farm of 135 acres in section 13, continuing same until 1900, when he bought the place, where he carried on general farming in the raising of Holstein-Fresian cattle successfully at the present time. Mr. Bollenbach was married in January, 1893, to Minnie S., daughter of Charles and Caroline Vierkant, natives of Germany, who emigrated to America in the early days. Mr. Vierkant was a Civil War veteran. After the close of the war he came back to Minnesota and bought a farm in the township of Wheeling, on which he carried on general farming until his death, which occurred in August, 1899. Mrs. Vierkant still lives in the town of Nerstrand. Mr. and Mrs. Bollenbach have four children: Gaylord, Wilna, Harvey and Stanley, who are all living at home. In political faith Mr. Bollenbach is a Republican. In religious faith he belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church. He has been a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and is also a stockholder in the Nerstrand Creamery.

**Jacob J. Bosshart**, a well-to-do farmer, of Wheeling township, was born in Switzerland July 4, 1835. He is the son of Mark and Regina Bosshart, who were natives of Germany and came to America in 1856, locating in Wheeling township, Rice county, where the father made a claim of 160 acres in section 22. They remained here until 1868, when they moved to reside



with their son, Jacob J., who had filed a claim in section 27 previous to this time. Mr. Mark Bosshart died in 1876 and Mrs. Bosshart in 1879. Our subject was educated in the old country, and came to America in 1853. He worked at farming in the states of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois and Iowa and spent two winters in the pineries. In 1855 he came back to Minnesota and settled on his claim, which he had filed on in 1854. Here he has remained ever since. He has 295 acres of farm land, on which he has made all necessary improvements. Mr. Bosshart has twice visited the old country. On May 17, 1860, he was married to Sophia, daughter of Fred and Dorothy Hellberg, natives of Germany. The father was a shoemaker by trade and came to America in 1848, locating in Illinois, where he farmed until 1856. At that time he came to Minnesota and located in Rice county, township of Wheeling, where he farmed until the time of his death in 1874. His wife died in 1867. The home of our subject was blessed with eight children, viz: H. C., died in 1901; Annie, now Mrs. Henry Kelm, lives at West Concord; Mary, a widow, lives with her father; H. W. is a farmer and lives in Cherry Grove, Goodhue county; Sophia, now Mrs. D. Mensing, lives in West Concord on a farm; Henry J. is married and lives on a farm in the township of Wheeling; Frank J. lives at home; John died in 1885. Mr. Bosshart is a Republican and belongs to the German Evangelical church. He has served on the town board and also on the school board.

**William Bultmann** is one of those thrifty farmers of Wheeling township. He was born in Germany March 28, 1856, son of William and Louisa (Haller) Bultmann, natives of Germany. The father was a wagon maker by trade, and came to America in 1857, being one of the early settlers of Rice county, where he located in the township of Wheeling, pre-empted 120 acres of land in section 25, later he bought forty acres in the same section, and again increased his farm by another purchase of 160 acres in section 36, making 320 acres in all. He erected buildings and made his home in section 26, where he worked at his trade as a wagon maker and engaged in general farming until 1882, when he retired from active life. His son, William, then worked the farm and the father resides with him at the present time. The mother passed away May 24, 1902. William acquired his education in the district schools of Wheeling township. Leaving school, he went to work on his father's farm, where he is engaged in general and diversified farming in the raising of Holstein cattle. Mr. Bultmann was married December 31, 1877, to Sophia Tatge. Their home was blessed with one child, Henry. Mr. Bultmann was married a second time November 24, 1885, to Amelie, daughter of William and Eustena

Gess, natives of Germany. The father, a tailor by trade, came to America in 1863, located in Rice county, Wheeling township, where he farmed until 1904, when he retired from farming and moved to Goodhue county, where he still lives. Mrs. Gess died in 1902. The fruit of this second union is eight children: Mary, who lives at home; Lydia is a dressmaker at Faribault; Richard, Rose, Walter, William, Ervin and Leonard are all living at home. Mrs. Bultmann died March 2, 1907. Mr. Bultmann takes an active interest in public affairs of his vicinity. He has served as clerk for the school board twenty-one years. He is a stockholder in the Farmers' Mutual Elevator at Kenyon. He votes the Republican ticket. In religious faith he adheres to the Evangelical church.

**Jacob Bosshardt** was born in Philadelphia, Pa., March 6, 1852. He is a son of Jacob and Barbia S. (Busch) Bosshardt, the father being a native of Switzerland and the mother of Germany. He was a dyer by trade and came to America at an early day and located in Pennsylvania. He ran a news route for a few years and then conducted a grocery store until 1855, when he came west and bought a farm of 160 acres in Wheeling township, Rice county. He then returned to Pennsylvania and in the fall of the same year brought out his family and settled on his farm in Section 21, where he did general farming until 1883. He rented his farm to his son Daniel and moved to Faribault, where he lived in retirement until his death, in 1887. Mrs. Bosshardt died at Nerstrand in the month of October, 1908. Jacob Bosshardt was educated in the district schools at Wheeling and after leaving school he worked on his father's farm, until 1875, when he rented a farm and did general farming until 1878. He then moved to LeSueur county, bought eighty acres, and farmed until 1884, when he sold his farm and returned to Rice county and bought the old homestead of his father. He did general farming until 1909, then he rented his farm to his son Edwin and moved to Nerstrand, where he and his wife are now living. Ten children blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bosshardt: Aaron, married, and living on his farm at Sauk Centre; Adolph, married, and also living on a farm at Sauk Centre; Benjamin lives at Nerstrand; Lydia, married to Charles Taylor, who works in a wagon factory—they live at Sauk Centre; Edwin lives in Wheeling; Franklin, Herbert, Ellen, Lovern and Lillian, the last five, are living at home with their parents. In politics he is a Republican, and he is a member of the United Evangelical church.

**G. J. Branes**, one of the enterprising farmers of Webster township, was born in Norway, February 16, 1855, to Jens and Anna Thorson, natives of Norway, who emigrated to Amer-

ica in 1868 and located in Goodhue county. They remained there one year, then moved to Faribault, Minn., where they remained about a year and a half, whence they returned to Goodhue county, remaining there, on a rented farm, three years. They came to Webster township, Rice county, where they farmed until the death of the father, which occurred in 1886; the mother died in 1898. Our subject attained his education in Norway, which was supplemented by but a few months' schooling in Goodhue county. Leaving school, he farmed, having bought some land in Webster township previous to moving there. He now has 160 acres in Section 16, on which he has farmed successfully up to the present time, also engaging in dairy business and the breeding of short-horn cattle. Mr. Branes was married in 1878 to Thea Amalia, daughter of Ole Thostenson and Elizabeth Thostenson. They have nine children, viz.: Anna, now Mrs. Holm, who lives at St. Paul; Elizabeth also lives in St. Paul; Ole died in 1886; Ole the second resides in Canada; John also lives in Canada; Julia died in 1886; Julia the second lives in St. Paul; Alfred resides in Wisconsin and Agnes S. lives with her parents. Mrs. Branes died in 1896. Mr. Branes married a second time in 1899, to Anna J., daughter of John and Anna J. Lein, of Doge county, Minnesota. Mr. Branes takes an active interest in public affairs in his community, and the fact that he has filled a number of local offices signifies that he is appreciated in the community in which he lives. He has served almost continuously on the town board, which office he still holds, and at the present time is treasurer of the school board. He is also a stockholder in the Creamery, Telephone Company and Co-operative stores, and is a director in all of the above mentioned institutions. He was one of the prime movers in organizing the Creamery and the Telephone Company. In religious faith Mr. Branes is a Lutheran and takes a very active part in church affairs. He is at the present time president of the congregation and one of the trustees. In political sentiment he is a Republican.

**Mathias Becker, Jr.**, was born in Bridgewater township, Rice county, Minn., December 24, 1870. He is a son of Nicholas and Barbara (Meyer) Becker. The mother was a native of Rice county and the father was a native of Germany. He came to America in 1863 and located in Wisconsin. Here he worked out until 1868, when he came to Minnesota, and located in Bridgewater township, where he farmed until his death, in 1907. The mother still lives on the old homestead. Mr. Becker attended school in Wells township, and after leaving school worked on his father's farm until 1899, when he purchased

eighty acres in Section 24, Forest township, on which he has carried on general farming up to the present time. In 1898 he was married to Gertrude Wagner, daughter of Stephen and Margaret (Green) Wagner, of Mitchell county, Iowa. Three children have blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Becker: Dorothy, Stephen and Joseph, all living at home. In religious belief Mr. Becker is a Catholic, and in politics a Democrat. He is a member of the German Benevolent Society, and a stockholder in the Forest Creamery.

**L. N. Becker**, a thrifty farmer of Bridgewater township, was born there October 4, 1876, to Mathias and Margaret (Jansen) Becker, natives of Germany, who emigrated to America in 1866, and located at Springfield, Ill., where they remained a short time. They came to Minnesota in the seventies and located at New Market, remaining there five years, when they removed to Bridgewater township, Rice county, and located in Section 31, where the father has carried on general farming up to the present time. The subject of this sketch acquired his education in the common schools of Bridgewater. Leaving school, he worked on a farm, and in 1899 he bought a farm in Section 20, which he sold two years later; buying another, 150 acres, in Sections 21 and 30, which he has improved and on which he carries on general and diversified farming with success up to the present time.

In 1899 Mr. Becker married Miss Barbara, daughter of John and Mary (Driver) Strouth, natives of Germany, who came to America in 1868, locating in Wisconsin, where they farmed for some time, and later came to Minnesota, being of the first settlers in Cannon City township, Rice county, where they are still farming. Mr. and Mrs. Becker have three children: Mathias, Margaret and Alfred, who are all living with their parents. Mr. Becker takes an active interest in the public affairs in his locality. He has served on the town board in Bridgewater, and is also secretary and manager of the Forest Creamery Company. In politics he is a Democrat, and he and his family belong to the Catholic church.

**J. W. Barnett** was born in Buenavista, Iowa, May 31, 1853, son of R. M. and Margaret (Volmerine) Barnett; the mother was a native of Germany and the father of the state of Ohio. He learned the blacksmith's trade and went to Iowa when he was a boy, working at his trade and in the lead mines of that state. He came to Minnesota in 1855 and located land in Goodhue county, one-half of the land which he pre-empted now comprising the village of Kenyon. He remained there for only one year and then went to Cannon City, where he worked at his trade for about two years, going from there to Faribault,



where he remained until 1860. He then moved to Owatonna, and was there one year, when he again returned to Rice county, in the year 1861, and located on a farm in Section 25, Forest township, where he did general farming until his death, in 1900, January 4. The mother still lives on the old homestead with her son. J. W. Barnett was educated in the public schools of Cannon City, Faribault and Owatonna. After leaving school he lived at home with his parents for several years, and in 1876 bought eighty acres in the northern part of Forest township. He sold this in 1882 and moved down on his father's place, where he has since remained. He has one brother, Frank B., now living in the state of Washington. His political affiliations are with the Republican party, and in his religious belief he is a Congregationalist. He is also a Royal Arch Mason. He has served his town on the school board for several years, and is a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator Company of Faribault, and in the Forest Creamery.

**Arthur B. Childress**, the efficient and able county attorney of Rice county, was born in Kingston, Tenn., August 17, 1871. He attended the schools of his neighborhood and later entered Grant University at Athens, Tenn., graduating in June, 1892. In the fall of 1893, having decided to locate in the North, he came to Rice county, took up his residence in Dundas, and in company with a partner, opened a law office in Northfield, the firm being known as Childress & Barrett. January 1, 1907, Mr. Childress became county attorney, in which position he has won hundreds of friends and demonstrated his fitness. The confidence of his constituents is shown by the fact that at the expiration of his first term he was named to succeed himself in the office and was elected by a large majority. Attorney Childress has moved his family to Faribault and established his home at 324 Fifth avenue, but he still retains his law office at Northfield. He belongs to the Masons, the Elks, the Modern Woodmen, the Modern Brotherhood and the Odd Fellows, as well as to the Faribault Commercial Club. He has also associated himself with the Minnesota Bar Association. Attorney Childress was married January 22, 1901, at Herman, Minn., to Mabel E. Noel, daughter of Jacob A. Noel, a merchant, farmer and stock buyer. John Childress, and Mary Glenn Childress, his wife, parents of Arthur B. Childress, were both natives of Tennessee. The father is a merchant in Athens, Tenn., and the mother died in March, 1906.

**Charles H. Caron**, contractor and builder, of Faribault, was born in Quebec, Canada, February 18, 1861, son of Antoine and Sarah Caron, natives of Canada. The parents went to Massachusetts in 1872. In 1875 they went back to Canada. After



five more years there they located in Minnesota, and in 1884 came to Faribault, Minn., where the father was a carpenter. He still lives in Faribault, at the ripe old age of eighty-two years, his wife having died February 5, 1908. Charles H. received his education in Canada and learned the currier trade in a cotton mill in Massachusetts. He then came to Minnesota and worked at the carpenter trade. In 1887 he again went back to Boston and worked about a year and a half for the American Tool Machine Company in the millwright department. In 1889 he returned to Faribault, and in 1890 started in the general contracting and building business for himself, in which he has since continued with good success. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus, the Catholic Foresters and the Faribault Commercial Club. He is a Democrat in politics and attends the Catholic church. Mr. Caron was married May 7, 1882, at Salem, Mass., to Angeline Trambly, of that city. To this union have been born ten children: Angeline, Emil, Emma (deceased), Eva, Lena, Rose, Emma, Charles, Beatrice and Margaret. The family residence is on East Division street.

**Noble S. Canedy**, of Northfield, was born in Bennington, Vt., February 6, 1851, son of Joseph and Anna (Phipps) Canedy, natives of Vermont. The father was born November 15, 1811, and the mother March 17, 1817. The father came west and purchased 320 acre of land in Northfield and Bridgewater townships in 1854, and then returned to Vermont, where he remained a year, after which he came back to Minnesota in 1856, with his family, and took up his residence permanently on his farm, where he devoted his entire life to farming. He had been married twice, his first wife being Sally Crosier, whom he married February 2, 1836, by whom he had three children: Thomas, born February 2, 1837, died November 1, 1868; Joseph, born February 22, 1841, died in infancy; Willard, born April 26, 1843, now of Beloit, Wis. The mother of these children died July 30, 1843, and on October 9, the same year, Mr. Canedy married Anna Phipps, and to this union were born three children: Maryette, born June 8, 1845, died June 20, 1863; Noble S., the subject of this sketch; Charles H., born February 19, 1855, now of Tracy, Minn. The mother of these children died October 23, 1891, and the father passed away May 4, 1902. Noble S. received his education in the public schools of his neighborhood and afterward took up farming at home with his father, and in 1874 assumed entire charge of the homestead and conducted a general line of farming and dairying, keeping cows of the short-horn breed, principally. In 1906 he retired and moved to Northfield, where he now resides. Mr. Canedy has taken part in public affairs for many years, having served on the board of

west to Minnesota with his parents, Jonathan L. and Susan B. (French) Clifford, in 1855. They pre-empted 160 acres of land in Stanton township, Goodhue county, and cleared and cultivated this farm until in 1873, when the father moved to Cannon Falls and lived a retired life until his death in 1878. The mother died in 1901. There were seven children in the Clifford home: Samuel, who died of yellow fever in the West Indies; Arthur T., of Cannon Falls; Mrs. Willard Kenyon, of Raymond, Neb.; John (deceased) was formerly in business at Northfield; Everett F., of Wabasha, Minn.; Charles, the subject of this sketch, and Albion L., of Cannon Falls. Arthur T. and John were soldiers in the Civil War, the former serving in the First Regiment, Heavy Artillery, and the latter in Company F, Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. Charles F. remained at home, and in 1872 took charge of the farm, which he afterward purchased. He carried on a general line of farming, and also engaged in stock raising to a considerable extent. In 1894 he rented the farm and moved to Northfield, having purchased a small farm of forty acres within the city limits, where he has since resided. While a resident of Stanton township he served as treasurer and was also a member of the school board of his district for many years. April 5, 1873, Mr. Clifford was united in marriage to Jeanette Whitson, a native of Smith Falls, Ontario, and was born November 8, 1848, daughter of Robert and Mary (Riddle) Whitson. The father was born in Edinborough, Scotland in 1827, and the mother was born in Canada April 19, 1828. In 1863 they came to Minnesota and settled in Stanton township, where the father died July 7, 1889. Two years later the mother moved to Northfield, where she passed away February 10, 1904. They were the parents of eight children: Mrs. C. F. Clifford; Robert A., of Drayton, N. D.; James, of Fergus Falls, Minn.; Mrs. Amos Gile, of North Yakima, Wash.; William (deceased); John H., of Stanton, Minn.; Mrs. Eugene Bullock, of Puyallup, Wash., and Henry, of Drayton, N. D. To Mr. and Mrs. Clifford have been born five children: John E., born January 3, 1874, who is a farmer, of Northfield township; William P., born April 1, 1877, of Alberta, Canada; Charles W., born October 8, 1882, of Minneapolis; Herbert, born July 4, 1886, of Havre, Mont.; Jeanette M., born September 19, 1890, is at home. The family are members of the Congregational church at Northfield.

**Carl Clarine**, horticulturist, who, with his brother, Nils P. Clarine, conducts the only greenhouse in Faribault, was born in Sweden, April 13, 1868. Carl received his earlier education in the country schools of Sweden, and came to America in 1887, locating in Webster county, Iowa, for about a year. He then engaged in the greenhouse business in Minneapolis, until

1891, when he went to St. Paul, continuing in the same business until 1894, when he came to Faribault, where he and his brother built their present large greenhouse. They handle a large variety of flowers of all description and enjoy a large trade. Mr. Clarine is an independent voter. He belongs to the Sons of Herman, the Degree of Honor and the United Workmen. He was married July 2, 1901, at Faribault, to Marie Beyer. To this union have been born four children: Esther, Herbert, Florence and Donald. The family faith is that of the Episcopal church.

**N. R. Castle**, of Faribault, has the sole agency for southern Minnesota for the sale of the Phelps carbide feed gas generator, and has exploited the excellent qualities of this light in so able a manner as to secure for it a wide distribution and general popularity. N. R. Castle was born in Lee Center, Oneida county, N. Y., May 7, 1844, son of John J. and Sary R. (Cornish) Castle, natives of New York. The father was superintendent of the Black river canal for eight years. He came west with his family in 1859, located in Walcott township, Rice county, and continued farming until his death, in 1901, his wife having passed away in 1896. The subject of this sketch received his early education in New York state, came west with his parents in 1859, and here continued his schooling. After working on the home farm for a time he took up railroad work, and after six years purchased 160 acres of wild land in Merton county, improving the land, erecting a house and barn, and developing the place in general. In 1896 he sold out and purchased the old homestead in Walcott township, which he worked until 1905, when he sold the farm and came to Faribault. Two years later he took the agency which he still retains. Mr. Castle is an independent Democrat. While in Walcott township he served several terms as supervisor and occupied other positions of public and private trust and honor. Mr. Castle was married July 3, 1864, at Clinton Falls, Steele county, Minnesota, to Amelia J. McNitt, daughter of Sylvester and Susan McNitt, who died January 4, 1904. To this union eight children were born: W. H., a miller of Morton, Minn.; George W., a farmer of Wadena, Minn.; Asa, of Faribault; Fred, a farmer of Todd county; Adren, a farmer of South Dakota; Clifford, who is a plumber and lives at home; N. R., Jr., who lives at home, and Nona M., who married Frank L. Wentworth, an Owatonna barber. Mr. Castle was married December 25, 1905, to Mrs. Ella Freeman, of Shenandoah, Iowa. The family faith is that of the Universalist church.

**Henry Chaffee**, an early pioneer, was born in Berkshire county, Mass., April 9, 1827. He was reared on the farm and when eighteen years old entered a store in his native county

as clerk. In 1856 he came to Faribault and opened a grocery store. Two years later he pre-empted a claim in Waseca county, but continued to reside in Rice county. From 1866 to 1872 he operated a saw and stave mill in Wells township, and then became a member of the Walcott Milling Company. He died March 8, 1897. His wife is now living at Faribault. Mrs. Chaffee was born in Ohio, her maiden name being Charlotte Carter. She was married to Henry Chaffee in 1869, then moving to Faribault.

**Fred M. Chaffee**, real estate dealer and loan broker, was born in Faribault, August 2, 1874, and received his earlier education in the public schools, later entering Shattuck school. His parents were Henry and Charlotte (Carter) Chaffee, whose career is noted elsewhere. After leaving school Fred M. took up the real estate and loan business, at the same time looking after his own farms, located in Walcott township. His holdings include considerable wild lands in northern Minnesota, affording Mr. Chaffee opportunity for pursuing his favorite pastimes of fishing and hunting. He votes the Republican ticket. He was married June 15, 1903, at Lincoln, Neb., to Ethel H. Hooper, of that city, daughter of C. L. Hooper, a loan and stock broker. To Mr. and Mrs. Chaffee have been born two children: Colin T., born August 11, 1905, and Frederick H., born October 14, 1906. The family residence is located on Second avenue, between Fourth and Fifth streets.

**Henry L. Cruttenden** is a prominent dentist of Northfield, where he has practiced his profession for the long period of thirty years, and has also closely identified himself with the growth and development of the city, taking a special interest in the schools, having served as a member of the school board for a number of years, part of which he acted as secretary. In his profession he has been connected with the state dental association since its organization, of which he was chosen as the first secretary, which office he held for seven years, and later was elected president, which he served for a time. He has been elected as a life member of the association. He has also been president of the Southern Minnesota Dental Association. Dr. Cruttenden is also well known in fraternal circles, having associated himself with several organizations. In the Masonic order he has held the office of master of Social Lodge, No. 48, A. F. & A. M., and has been high priest of the R. A. M., Corinthian Chapter, No. 33, and is also a member of high standing and prominence of the Knights Templar of Faribault. In political affairs Dr. Cruttenden is a faithful adherent to the Republican party. He was born in Morris, Otsego county, New York, April 20, 1856, son of Hopestill and Casandania (Noble) Crut-



tenden, natives of Connecticut. He received his education in the public schools of Morris, and in 1876 left his native state for the West, where he took up the study of dental surgery, and spent some time in Chippewa Falls, Wis., and Red Wing, Minn., after which he came to Northfield, in June, 1879, and opened an office in the Northfield National Bank Building, where he has since remained, and has built up a large and profitable practice, and on account of his careful and conscientious work has won the confidence and esteem of the people of the city and surrounding country. He was married May 5, 1881, to Nellie A. Orr, daughter of Charles Orr, of Oneida, N. Y., where she was born, and they have two children: Charles N., born October 31, 1884, is an art student of marked ability, and has spent two years in New York city in the study of art, and Louis M., born July 18, 1894, is a student in the high school at home. The family are members of the Episcopal church, of which Dr. Cruttenden has been a member of the vestry for thirty years.

**William A. Cruikshank**, deputy county treasurer, and former teacher, was born in Richland township, July 13, 1876, son of John H. and Emilyn (Hortop) Cruikshank, prominent farmers of Richland township. William A. received his early education in the district schools of Richland township, and then took a course in the Pillsbury Academy, Owatonna. Subsequently he studied three years in the Faribault high school, and in 1896 entered the state normal school, at Mankato, graduating in 1899. In the meantime he taught in Goodhue county. After graduating from normal school he took up teaching in Rice county and met with great success. He then learned telegraphy, and subsequently entered the employ of the C. & G. W. Ry., working for that company one year at Kenyon, Minn., and one year at Minneapolis. In 1903 he went with the Minnesota Transfer railroad for a short time and then became timekeeper and cost clerk for the American Bridge Company. October 1, 1908, he came to Faribault as deputy county treasurer under Silas Pettitt. Mr. Cruikshank is a Republican in politics and a member of the Modern Woodmen and Masons. He was married July 24, 1902, at Beaver Creek, Rock county, Minnesota, to Eva M. Price, daughter of A. D. Price, of that place, prominent stock farmer. Mr. Price died in April, 1905, and Mrs. Price still lives on the home farm. To Mr. and Mrs. Cruikshank has been born one child, Ramona G., born May 22, 1903. The family faith is that of the Methodist church.

**Thomas J. Conlin**, real estate dealer and insurance representative, was born in Lake Forest, Ill., October 4, 1841, son of Patrick and Mary (O'Dowd) Conlin, natives of Ireland, who



as clerk. In 1856 he came to Faribault and opened a grocery store. Two years later he pre-empted a claim in Waseca county, but continued to reside in Rice county. From 1866 to 1872 he operated a saw and stave mill in Wells township, and then became a member of the Walcott Milling Company. He died March 8, 1897. His wife is now living at Faribault. Mrs. Chaffee was born in Ohio, her maiden name being Charlotte Carter. She was married to Henry Chaffee in 1869, then moving to Faribault.

**Fred M. Chaffee**, real estate dealer and loan broker, was born in Faribault, August 2, 1874, and received his earlier education in the public schools, later entering Shattuck school. His parents were Henry and Charlotte (Carter) Chaffee, whose career is noted elsewhere. After leaving school Fred M. took up the real estate and loan business, at the same time looking after his own farms, located in Walcott township. His holdings include considerable wild lands in northern Minnesota, affording Mr. Chaffee opportunity for pursuing his favorite pastimes of fishing and hunting. He votes the Republican ticket. He was married June 15, 1903, at Lincoln, Neb., to Ethel H. Hooper, of that city, daughter of C. L. Hooper, a loan and stock broker. To Mr. and Mrs. Chaffee have been born two children: Colin T., born August 11, 1905, and Frederick H., born October 14, 1906. The family residence is located on Second avenue, between Fourth and Fifth streets.

**Henry L. Cruttenden** is a prominent dentist of Northfield, where he has practiced his profession for the long period of thirty years, and has also closely identified himself with the growth and development of the city, taking a special interest in the schools, having served as a member of the school board for a number of years, part of which he acted as secretary. In his profession he has been connected with the state dental association since its organization, of which he was chosen as the first secretary, which office he held for seven years, and later was elected president, which he served for a time. He has been elected as a life member of the association. He has also been president of the Southern Minnesota Dental Association. Dr. Cruttenden is also well known in fraternal circles, having associated himself with several organizations. In the Masonic order he has held the office of master of Social Lodge, No. 48, A. F. & A. M., and has been high priest of the R. A. M., Corinthian Chapter, No. 33, and is also a member of high standing and prominence of the Knights Templar of Faribault. In political affairs Dr. Cruttenden is a faithful adherent to the Republican party. He was born in Morris, Otsego county, New York, April 20, 1856, son of Hopestill and Casandania (Noble) Crut-

tenden, natives of Connecticut. He received his education in the public schools of Morris, and in 1876 left his native state for the West, where he took up the study of dental surgery, and spent some time in Chippewa Falls, Wis., and Red Wing, Minn., after which he came to Northfield, in June, 1879, and opened an office in the Northfield National Bank Building, where he has since remained, and has built up a large and profitable practice, and on account of his careful and conscientious work has won the confidence and esteem of the people of the city and surrounding country. He was married May 5, 1881, to Nellie A. Orr, daughter of Charles Orr, of Oneida, N. Y., where she was born, and they have two children: Charles N., born October 31, 1884, is an art student of marked ability, and has spent two years in New York city in the study of art, and Louis M., born July 18, 1894, is a student in the high school at home. The family are members of the Episcopal church, of which Dr. Cruttenden has been a member of the vestry for thirty years.

**William A. Cruikshank**, deputy county treasurer, and former teacher, was born in Richland township, July 13, 1876, son of John H. and Emily (Hortop) Cruikshank, prominent farmers of Richland township. William A. received his early education in the district schools of Richland township, and then took a course in the Pillsbury Academy, Owatonna. Subsequently he studied three years in the Faribault high school, and in 1896 entered the state normal school, at Mankato, graduating in 1899. In the meantime he taught in Goodhue county. After graduating from normal school he took up teaching in Rice county and met with great success. He then learned telegraphy, and subsequently entered the employ of the C. & G. W. Ry., working for that company one year at Kenyon, Minn., and one year at Minneapolis. In 1903 he went with the Minnesota Transfer railroad for a short time and then became timekeeper and cost clerk for the American Bridge Company. October 1, 1908, he came to Faribault as deputy county treasurer under Silas Pettitt. Mr. Cruikshank is a Republican in politics and a member of the Modern Woodmen and Masons. He was married July 24, 1902, at Beaver Creek, Rock county, Minnesota, to Eva M. Price, daughter of A. D. Price, of that place, prominent stock farmer. Mr. Price died in April, 1905, and Mrs. Price still lives on the home farm. To Mr. and Mrs. Cruikshank has been born one child, Ramona G., born May 22, 1903. The family faith is that of the Methodist church.

**Thomas J. Conlin**, real estate dealer and insurance representative, was born in Lake Forest, Ill., October 4, 1841, son of Patrick and Mary (O'Dowd) Conlin, natives of Ireland, who

came to America in 1828, located in Boston, Mass., and there remained until 1883, when they took up their residence for a year in Chicago, Ill. Then they went to Forest Lake township in the same state, and homesteaded 160 acres of land. In 1849 Patrick Conlin followed the gold rush to California, and there remained for years. Then he lived on his farm in Illinois until 1856, when he came to Merton, Steele county, and engaged in farming, continuing all his life. He died in January, 1886, and his wife in March, 1875. Thomas J. received his education in the district schools, attending a log cabin school in his neighborhood. He followed agricultural pursuits for his father and then acquired a farm of his own. In 1877, when he came to Faribault, he rented his farm, and after eighteen years sold it. Since 1877 he has been engaged in the insurance and real estate business in Faribault, having an office at 215½ Central avenue and a fine residence at 626 Second street, W. N. Mr. Conlin has been actively identified with public life for many years. While in Merton township, Steele county, he served as assessor and town clerk for several terms, and was on the school board fifteen years. He also served the city of Faribault as recorder for three years, and overseer of the poor for six years. He belongs to the Knights of Columbus and is a popular member of Michael Cook Post, No. 123, G. A. R. At the outbreak of the Indian troubles Mr. Conlin enlisted in the government service, in August, 1862, saw much active service, and re-enlisted in February, 1864, serving in Company L, First Minnesota Heavy Artillery, as high corporal. He returned home in October, 1865. Mr. Conlin was married May 20, 1864, to Abigail McAndrews, of Steele county. To this union were born three children: Cora M., who married Alexander Casufel, of Faribault; Mary F., who is at home, and Emma J., wife of John Kasper, of Faribault. Mrs. Abigail Conlin died December 24, 1873. Mr. Conlin was married February 28, 1879, to Jane McMahon, of Rice county. To this union was born one daughter, Rosanna, wife of James Fitzgerald, of Owatonna.

**Stephen Loveband Crocker**, another of that noble band of men who were identified with the Episcopalian movement in Faribault whose influence has become nation-wide, was born at Stafford, Geneesee county, New York, December 12, 1845. He attended the public schools and completed his education at the Batavia Academy, making the study of chemistry a specialty. As soon as he attained his majority he left his boyhood home for the alluring West, and after a brief stay at Buffalo, N. Y., and Hillsdale, Mich., came to Hastings, Minn., in 1867, and the following year to Faribault, where he entered the drug store of Sage & Hunter as a prescription clerk. In





STEPHEN L. CROCKER



1872 he purchased the drug business of Sage & Hunter and established a large, prosperous and successful business. A little later he formed a copartnership with his brother, George Crocker, and the firm became known as "The Crocker Brothers." A few years later they opened up a branch store in the then new and growing town of Crookston, Minn., in the northern part of the state, George removing there and looking after that part of the business. Later they dissolved partnership, Stephen Crocker being left sole proprietor of the store at Faribault. Mr. Crocker found time for much labor outside of his own immediate business and was prominent in many other business enterprises. He was public spirited and generous, and greatly interested in everything pertaining to the growth and welfare of the city. For two years he was president of the Faribault Board of Trade, also president of the board of directors of the rattan factory, and one of the chief spirits in introducing that industry into Faribault. He was president of the State Board of Pharmacy, and his knowledge of the business gave him a high standing in medical circles throughout the state. He was also a prominent member of the old Excelsior hook and ladder company. Having been brought up in the Episcopal church, he dearly loved and believed in it and its influence, and on coming to Faribault he became closely associated with the Cathedral of the Good Shepherd, ever giving freely to its support and working dilligently for its prosperity. For nearly twenty years he was a vestryman, junior or senior warden of the Parish of the Good Shepherd and was senior warden at the time of his death. He was a prominent Mason, and held several important official positions in the order, and was elected, in 1891, eminent commander of the Faribault Commandery. Mr. Crocker was a sound, straight-forward Jeffersonian Democrat. He was never an office seeker, his nominations in every case coming to him unsolicited. He served the city of Faribault four years as alderman, being elected and re-elected from the Second ward, one of the strongest Republican precincts in the county. In 1882 he was elected county auditor and held the office two years. In 1886 he was elected mayor of the city by a majority of over 400. He was also a member of the Democratic state central committee, and in 1890 was the candidate of his party for state senator. But in August, 1891, his health failed, and he went to Colorado, hoping to regain it. There he spent two years and a half, returning for a short time each summer to look after his business interests in Faribault, which he still retained. He made a brave struggle for life, but finally entered the "Valley of the Shadow," bravely, as he had lived, passing away at Denver, Colo., March

3, 1904. Stephen Loveband Crocker was married at Faribault, November 2, 1875, to Carrie E. Mee, formerly of Troy, N. Y., a lady of varied accomplishments, who proved a loving and faithful helpmeet and who still resides in Faribault.

**K. D. Chase**, financier, railroad promoter, developer of mining and agricultural lands, and president of the Chase State Bank, of Faribault, has lived a life of busy activity, and has been closely identified with the growth, progress and improvement of the Northwest. He was born in Little Valley, N. Y., December 1, 1841, and received his earlier education in the district schools of Cataraugus county and the select school at Little Valley. He started his career at the age of nineteen years, when he came to Minnesota and located on a farm in Olmstead county. Shortly afterward the Civil War broke out, and, filled with patriotic impulses, Mr. Chase enlisted in Company K, Second Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered in at Fort Snelling, serving three years, until the expiration of his term of enlistment, when he reënlisted in the same company and regiment and served until the close of the war. He was one of the very fortunate ones who went through the conflict without being wounded or captured, or having his health and strength impaired in any way. He participated in all the important battles of his regiment, and was with Sherman on his march to the sea. At the conclusion of hostilities he participated in the Grand Review in Washington. From there the regiment was sent to Harrisburg, and thence down the Ohio river to Louisville, where it was discharged, being mustered out at Fort Snelling, Minnesota. Having thus completed his service to his country, Mr. Chase went to Rochester, Minn., and entered the employ of R. H. Doe, shoe merchant. After he had acquainted himself with the business Mr. Chase was sent by Mr. Doe to Owatonna, where he opened a branch shoe store, which he managed two years. Then, in company with his brothers, Mr. Chase bought out his employer and conducted the Owatonna store until 1869. In 1871 the subject of this sketch went to Duluth, Minn., and identified himself with the Northern Pacific Railroad, remaining until 1876. His next location was at Crookston, where he was prominently identified with many of the improvements for which that city is so highly commended. As a contractor he constructed the electric light plant and the water works. He associated himself with the First National Bank, became its vice-president, and is still a stockholder in that institution. He also dealt largely in real estate, and laid out and platted two additions to the city of Crookston, one of which bears his name. In 1887 Mr. Chase came to Faribault, and here established his home

permanently, entering at once into the life and progress of this city. While maintaining his home here, he became interested in the iron mines on the Missaba range, north of Duluth. In 1890 he took up prospecting and exploring in the range through the counties of Lake, Cook and St. Louis, making several important discoveries which have since been developed into extensive mines. At one time Mr. Chase and his associates controlled over 18,000 acres on the range. In 1891-92 times were such as to encourage the building of a railroad, which was accordingly at once begun. It was soon completed to Mount Iron, to Virginia Mountain, to Biwabik Mountain and Missabe Mountain. This road was known as the Duluth, Missabe & Northern and Mr. Chase became its president. In 1893 he resigned his position, but continued his mining and exploring, being connected with mining operations in Arizona, in which he is still interested. Formerly he was connected with the copper mines in Pine county, this state, and at Port Arthur and in Canada. For many years Mr. Chase has dealt extensively in both wild and cultivated lands. In 1905 Mr. Chase organized the Chase State Bank, of Faribault, first erecting the slightly building which it has since occupied. Mr. Chase was the first president of this institution, and his son Kelsey the first cashier, both these positions being still retained. K. D. Chase is a Republican in politics. While at Owatonna he served on the school board. At Crookston he served on the school board during the entire period of his residence there, and in Faribault he served efficiently as mayor, in 1900. He is vice-president of the automobile club of Rice county. His interest in the business growth of Faribault is shown in his work for the Faribault Commercial Club, of which he is a member.

The subject of this sketch was married in February, 1868, at Homer, N. Y., to Isabelle Gardner, and this union has been blessed with five children: Mary Alzina is now Mrs. Charles S. Batchelder, of Faribault; Bertha Gardner lives at home; Albert Gardner also lives at home; Kelsey S. has already been mentioned as cashier of his father's bank; Ella died when five years of age. The family faith is that of the Congregational church.

**John Cowden**, a successful farmer, of Bridgewater township, was born in Ireland August 25, 1839, to Alexander and Ellen Balentine Cowden, natives of Ireland. They emigrated to Canada and located near Prescott, Wis., where the father farmed until his death, which occurred in 1892. The mother died in 1889. John attained his education in Canada. Leaving school, he worked away from home for some time, and in 1863

came to Minnesota and located at Dundas, Rice county, Minnesota, where he worked in a flour mill. Later he bought 160 acres of land in sections 23 and 26, Bridgewater township, where he has farmed up to the present time. A short time after purchasing the first farm he bought an additional 160 acres in sections 21 and 20 which he still owns. He has cleared his farm of timber and by hard work and persevering effort has made improvements, including modern buildings, until it is now one of the best cared for and most productive farms in the community. Mr. Cowden was married in 1866 to Anna Workman, of Canada. Seven children were born to this family, named in the respective order of their birth, James Alexander, Florence May, Isabelle Jane, Alice Maude, Allen John, Olive Ella, Sarah Elizabeth. Mrs. Cowden died in 1882. Our subject married a second time, in 1884, to Miss Minnie Johnson, of Durand, Wis. Three children were born to this union, named as follows: Clara Mabel, Lulu Ellen, Samuel Clinton.

Mr. Cowden is not affiliated with any political party, but casts his vote in favor of those whom in his estimation are best qualified to fill the office for which they are candidates, regardless of party principle. In religious faith he is associated with the Presbyterian church. He is also member of the Degree of Honor. Mr. Cowden has served on the school board in Dundas, as treasurer, for a number of years, and has also served on the town board.

**J. F. Closson** was born in Cannon City township, Rice county, Minnesota, January 11, 1859. He is a son of Joseph and Susan (Koons) Closson, both of whom are natives of the East. His father was born in New York, and was a farmer by occupation. He came to Minnesota in 1852 and located in Cannon City township, Rice county, Minnesota, where he engaged in farming up to the time of his death, in June, 1903. He was a soldier in the Civil War and served as a private in Company C of the Sixth Regiment for one year and six months, when he was discharged because of wounds and sickness contracted in the service. His mother died in the month of February, 1908.

Mr. Closson obtained his education in the district schools of Cannon City, and on leaving school returned to the farm, where he has since remained, carrying on general farming. In the year 1880 he was married to Maranda Orcutt, a daughter of Burr and Sylvia Orcutt. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Closson: Dolly, who is now Mrs. John Lawrence and resides in the state of Washington; Guy, who is now deceased; Elbert Closson was married March 18, 1908, and resides on a farm in Bridgewater; and Hazel is living at home with her parents. His political affiliations are with the Repub-



lian party. He has served for several years on the town board of supervisors and also as a director on the school board. He is one of the stockholders of the Cannon City Creamery.

**H. H. Crossett**, retired farmer, living on First street, in Faribault, was born in Enosburg, Franklin county, Vermont, December 4, 1836. He received his earlier education in the schools of his native state, came to Wisconsin as a youth, farmed with his parents for a time, and in 1867 took up farming for himself near Owatonna. From 1879 to 1888 he engaged in farming in Walcott township, Rice county, and then went to Mower county, remaining until 1904, when he purchased a farm in Cannon City township. One year later he retired. Mr. Crossett is an estimable citizen in every respect and has done his share in promoting the agricultural interests of southern Minnesota. At one time he served on the school board. Mr. Crossett was married in October, 1860, at Juneau, Wis., to Jane Ely, daughter of Calvin Ely, of that place. Four children crowned this union: Mrs. Victoria Lukens lives with her father; Charles lives in Cannon City township; John lives in West Concord, Minn., and Julia is a stenographer in Spokane. The family religion is that of the Congregational church. The parents of H. H. Crossett were Samuel and Eunice (Barber) Crossett, the father a native of New York state and the mother of Vermont. The father was a hotel man and farmer in Canada about twenty-five years, but later followed dairy farming in Vermont until 1853, when he brought his family to Juneau, Wis., where he engaged in farming until 1868, when he moved to Du Page county, Illinois. Later he came to Faribault and here ended his days. His wife died in 1905.

**John Craven**, pioneer, was born in Jefferson county, Pennsylvania, and was reared in that state. He came to Minnesota in 1854 and lived in Black Dog valley, not far from St. Paul, being employed by a Mr. Griggs. Two years later, in 1856, he came to Rice county and pre-empted 160 acres of land in Forest township, which he cleared and improved, being the first man to raise a crop of wheat in his vicinity. In the spring of 1862 he enlisted as a private in the Second Minnesota Battery, Light Artillery, and served three years, participating in all the campaigns and battles of his regiment except that of Lookout Mountain, when he was confined in a hospital, as the result of injuries which nearly ended his life. He was shot in both ankles, thus making him helpless, while an entire battery of artillery swept over the ground where he lay. He was discharged in 1865, returned home and was married to Mrs. Mary Smith Greener June 21, 1865. To this union were born five children: Julia is now Mrs. E. J. Vaux, of Faribault; Mary is now Mrs.



La Mott, of Dennison, Rice county; Jennie is a school teacher in Pembina, N. D.; John W.; George L. lives in Spokane, Wash. In 1867 John Craven disposed of his farm in Forest township and removed to Waseca county, farming one year. Then he disposed of his farm and returned to Forest township, Rice county, again coming into possession of his original farm. In 1872 he sold the farm, moved to Faribault, purchased thirty-seven acres near the city limits and engaged in truck gardening. He twice added to his land, until he owned sixty acres, the place being located just off from Hulett avenue. In 1894, on account of declining years, he gave up his labors and retired in favor of his son, John W. John Craven was a Prohibitionist in politics and belonged to the Methodist church. He died October 14, 1900.

**John W. Craven**, market gardener and dairyman, has been interested for many years in the advancement of agricultural and dairying conditions in Rice county and southern Minnesota. He was born in Faribault November 9, 1876, and received his early education in the public schools of his native city. He then took up truck gardening with his father until 1894, when he succeeded his father and carried on the business for himself. He is now gradually converting his place into a dairy farm, keeping thoroughbred Holstein cattle. He is still single and his mother keeps house for him. Mr. Craven is an independent voter and, like his father, attends the Methodist church. Mr. Craven was one of the men instrumental in starting the Farmers' Co-operative Creamery at Faribault, in which he has been a stockholder and director since its incorporation.

**C. L. Clover** was born in New York state September 2, 1848. He is a son of R. B. and Abbegil (Reid) Clover, who were natives of New York. The father was a farmer by occupation and came west in 1858, locating in Chisago county, where he farmed up to 1881. He then moved to Pine county and died there. The mother is also dead. Mr. Clover attended the public schools in New York state and also in Minnesota. After leaving school he worked on the farm, later in the pineries and in the stave factory in Pine county. In 1878 he came to Forest township, where he bought a farm in section 15, where he has farmed up to the present time. He was married in 1877 to Hannah Backlund, a daughter of John and Lena Backlund. They were natives of Sweden, who emigrated to America and settled in Minnesota, where they both died. Three children have blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clover: Lena, now Mrs. Louis E. Larson, living in Minneapolis; Simon, a carpenter, living at home, and Charles, also at home. Mr. Clover is a member of the Lutheran church and of the Modern Woodmen of America. In politics he is an independent voter. At the

present time he is the treasurer of the school board in district No. 20.

**J. E. Clifford**, a prominent and thrifty farmer in Northfield township, is a native son of Minnesota. He was born in Goodhue county January 3, 1874, to C. F. and Janette (Whitson) Clifford, natives of Maine and Canada respectively. The father came to Minnesota in 1855, located in Goodhue county, where he carried on general farming until 1895, and then moved to Northfield, where he still lives. The subject of this sketch acquired his education in district schools of Goodhue county, which was supplemented by high school training at Cannon Falls and a business course at Red Wing. Leaving school, he returned to his father's farm, where he worked until 1895, and then took charge of the old homestead, where he carried on general and diversified farming until 1901. He then came to Rice county, located in Northfield township, where he bought 160 acres in section 10, on which he has done a general farming up to the present time. Mr. Clifford married Ada, daughter of Joseph and Emma Foster, of Northfield. In political sentiment Mr. Clifford favors the Republican party. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church. He is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He has served in various local offices in his community, viz., town clerk, supervisor and school director.

**Charles F. Cushman** was born in Monticello, Ia., January 30, 1867. He is the son of Samuel and Lucinda (Gilbert) Cushman. The mother was a native of New York and the father a native of Connecticut; by occupation he was a veterinary surgeon. He came to Minnesota in 1855 and located in Greenville township, Dakota county, where he pre-empted land and farmed for two years. He then went to Iowa, where he engaged in the butcher business for one year. He then returned to Minnesota, going first to Waseca, where he remained for five years, and then came to Millersburg, Forest township, where he farmed and conducted a hotel until his death, July 4, 1890. The mother still lives on the old place at Millersburg. Mr. Cushman attended the district school in Forest, and in 1885 graduated from the Northfield high school. After leaving school he learned the carpenter's trade, which he still follows, running a threshing machine during the harvest season. Mr. Cushman slept in the same room with the Younger brothers at his father's hotel the night before the Northfield bank robbery. He was married in 1888 to Annie Taylor, a daughter of John and Elizabeth Taylor, natives of Connecticut, who later located in Forest township. Mr. Taylor died in 1909. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Cushman, Frank and Sadie, both living at home. Mr. Cushman is

a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and of the following fraternal societies: Independent Order Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen of America, Modern Brotherhood of America, Rebecca Lodge. His political affiliations are with the Republican party. He has served on the town board and on the school board for fifteen years. He has been assessor for six years, also took the United States census and was postmaster of Millersburg for nine years.

**A. E. Cleland** was born in Canada May 28, 1867. He is a son of John and Julia (Bowen) Cleland, both natives of Canada. The father was a farmer. He came to Minnesota in 1871 and located in Forest township, Rice country, where he farmed up to the time of his death in 1890. The mother is also dead. Mr. Cleland attended the public schools in Forest and Dundas and spent one year at the Northfield high school. After leaving school he worked with his father on the farm, with the exception of one year, which was spent in the state of Washington. In 1890 he took charge of the old homestead, and in 1894 bought it from his father and has done general farming up to the present time. He was married in 1891 to Esther Taylor, a daughter of Gilbert N. and Lucy (Chase) Taylor, of Webster township. Nine children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Cleland: Elliott, Myrtle, Kenneth, Rachel, Beatrice, Andrew, Jr., Hugh, Donald Lincoln, and Carman. They are all living at home. In his political views Mr. Cleland is a Democrat, and he is a member of the Episcopal church and of the Modern Woodmen of America. He has served for seven years on the town board of supervisors and also on the school board. He is a director in the Northfield Telephone Company and a stockholder in the Dakota county co-operative store.

**J. T. Cheney**, a successful farmer, son of Luke and Elizabeth (Fritter) Cheney, natives of England, was born in Michigan September 2, 1854. The father came to America in 1846 and located at Long Island, N. Y., where he carried on his occupation as a sailor for two years, thence went to Ohio, where he was married. He then removed to Michigan, where he remained two years, when he again returned to Ohio, where he lived nine years. Going to Michigan once more, he lived there one winter, and then (1865) came to Minnesota and located on a farm in Bridgewater township, Rice county, where he farmed until his death, which occurred July 1, 1908. The mother died in 1878. Our subject attained his education in the district school of Bridgewater. Leaving school, he worked one year for his father and then rented his father's farm, which contract continued until the latter's death, when he became possessor of the farm, where he still resides. In 1877 Mr. Cheney married Miss Eliza A.,

daughter of Edward and Alice Jones. Of three children born to Mr. and Mrs. Cheney, Melvin L. farms in Bridgewater township; Phoebe, now Mrs. W. A. Rose, lives in Bridgewater township, and Jesse L. lives at home.

Mr. Cheney takes an active interest in public affairs, now serving on the board of supervisors in Bridgewater township. He has served as clerk on the school board for thirty-one years. In political sentiment Mr. Cheney is a Republican. He, with his family, adheres to the Episcopal faith. He is also interested in fraternal orders, belonging to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Workmen.

**Frank Degros**, one of the well-to-do citizens of Northfield, Minn., was born December 29, 1839, at Luxemburg, Germany, but is of French lineage. He learned the blacksmith's trade in France and followed it there, and after coming to this country, in October, 1868, worked at it some three years at Northfield. He then formed a partnership with Mr. Lewis Tscham under the firm name of Lewis Tscham & Co., and for twenty-one years conducted a prosperous meat business. His business took him throughout Rice and adjoining counties, and he came to be an expert in judging and buying stock for the market. In 1902 Mr. Degros retired from active business and lives in the enjoyment of his well-earned competence. He has a handsome brick residence on Union avenue, surrounded by spacious and beautiful grounds with many fine shade trees and ornamented shrubs of his own planting and training, and here he spends much of his time. In political matters Mr. Degros ties himself to no party, but in voting casts his ballot for the candidate whom he thinks best qualified to fill the office sought, regardless of party affiliations. In religious belief he is a Catholic.

Mr. Degros married Josephine Tscham. They have no children of their own, but have reared and educated a niece, who has had her home with them many years.

**Charles Degen**, a well known and highly honored resident of Faribault, has taken his part in the business activities of the city, and the well established firm of Charles Degen & Co., "Shoe Hustlers," stands as a monument to his untiring energy and unswerving honesty. Mr. Degen was born in Elsass, Germany, April 4, 1830, being one of the ten children of Adam and Solomney (Steinback) Degen. He came to America with his parents in 1844, and settled in Naperville, Ill., where he learned the shoemaker's trade. Subsequently, after moving to Long Grove, Ill., he worked at his trade in connection with conducting farming operations for ten years. During this period he was married to Elizabeth Smutz, who died in 1878, leav-

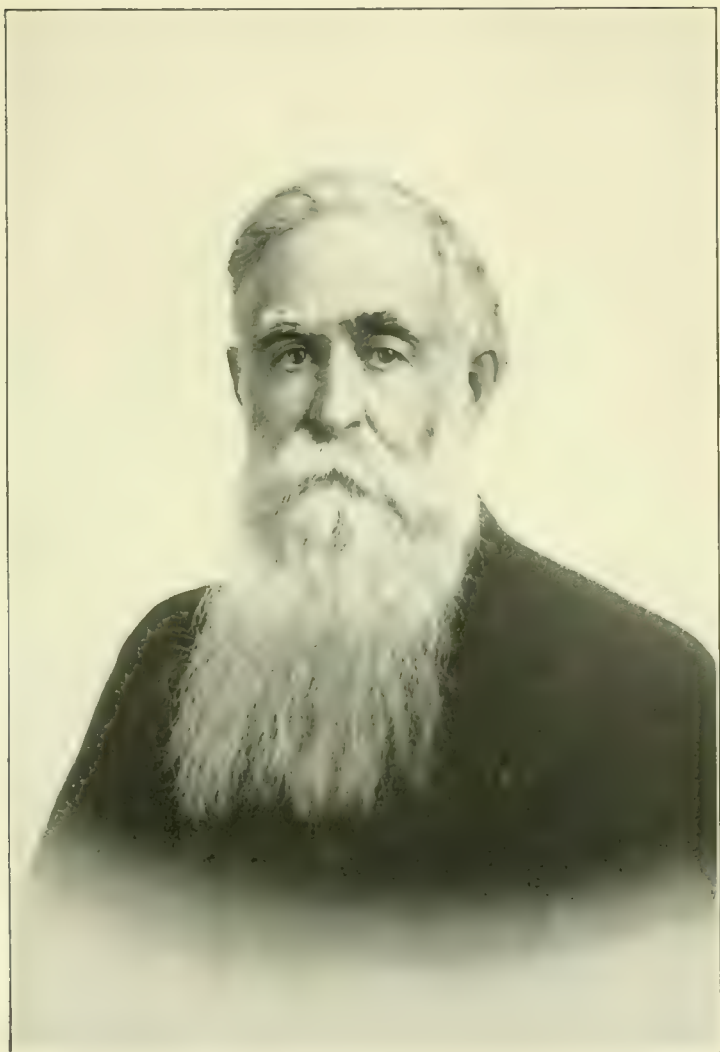


ing two children, Emma—who is now Mrs. P. J. Hummel—and Josephine—who is now Mrs. J. J. Hummel,—both living with their families in Los Angeles, Cal. Later Mr. Degen opened a general store at Arlington Heights, Ill., and in 1874 came to Faribault, where he engaged in the general mercantile business at 120 Third street. On account of poor health, caused by a too close application to business, he sold out, in 1884, and made two trips to California to recuperate. Not content to be long absent from business, however, Mr. Degen, in 1886, associated himself with Mr. Bredekof, and purchased a shoe business at 120 West Third street, in Faribault, from Daniel O'Brien. After a short time Mr. Degen purchased his partner's interest. The business is now conducted under the firm name of Charles Degen & Co., with C. W. Degen as manager. The store enjoys a large patronage and carries a large stock of first class goods. Mr. Degen was married in 1880 to Mrs. Juliana (Stark) Geckler, a native of Holstein, Germany, who had settled in Winona, where her husband, D. Geckler, died. Mr. and Mrs. Degen have one child, Charles W., who efficiently looks after his father's interest in the store, and is one of the rising young business men of the city. The family faith is that of the German Methodist church.

**James Dobbin, D. D.** In every generation, since the great school system of England was first inaugurated, there have been a few men, seemingly especially prepared by birth, and assuredly prepared by education, training and character, to impress the stamp of true and noble manhood upon budding youth. To occupy a worthy place among such men one must needs be of engaging, kindly and spotless character, firm and just when necessary, of ripe scholarship and experience, yet with the freshness of spirit which enters into the joys of boyhood. His must be a life worthy of emulation, and an inspiration to highest and best effort. Such a man was Dr. Arnold, immortalized in the classic "Tom Brown's School Days." And such a man also is Dr. James Dobbin, who has been called the "Arnold of America." His work is written in the lives of those who have passed under his fostering care for more than four decades past, and the influence which has emanated from his life will be felt for generations to come.

The story of his career is the history of the Shattuck school of Faribault, at the head of which he has been since 1867. James Dobbin was born in Salem, Washington county, New York, June 29, 1833, and was reared on the farm, receiving his earlier education in the public schools. At the age of eighteen years he left home and prepared for college by studying at the Salem and Argyle academies, working his way up by his own energy





JAMES DOBBIN, D. D.



and industry. In 1855 he took charge of the school at Argyle, where he remained until 1857; then entered Union College, graduating in 1859. He came to Faribault in 1859 and assisted Dr. J. L. Breck in a mission day school for one year. Then he returned to New York and once more conducted the Argyle Academy, one year later taking charge of the academy at Greenwich. In 1864 he came back to Minnesota and took up the study of theology at the Seabury Divinity School. Just before taking holy orders, in the spring of 1867, he was prevailed upon by Bishop Whipple and the Rev. Breck to attempt the founding of Shattuck School. He was ordained that year, was made rector of Shattuck School, and has since remained in charge.

Dr. Dobbin was married December 12, 1860, to Fannie I. Leigh, who died December 27, 1865, leaving one daughter, Jessie L. She married George C. Davis, then of Red Wing, now of Billings, Mont., and to this union were born two sons: James Leigh, now in the insurance and real estate business at Billings, and George D., who died in Red Wing at the age of eight years. Dr. Dobbin was married April 7, 1874, at Faribault, to Elizabeth L. Ames, and to this union were born two sons: Edward S., now manager of the St. Paul Envelope Company, of St. Paul, and John E., business manager of Shattuck School.

**Samuel F. Donaldson** is an active man of affairs at Faribault, Minn., a native of Rice county. He was born November 22, 1868, and is a son of Isaac N. and Sarah A. (Decker) Donaldson, natives of Pennsylvania. In 1862 the father settled at Bridgewater, in Rice county, where he bought land and carried on farming till 1871. He then engaged in a general mercantile trade at Dundas, which he sold some six years later. He was elected registrar of deeds for Rice county in 1877, and also served as county auditor. On April 1, 1899, he organized the Morristown State Bank and is still—1910—connected with it as its president. The mother also resides at Morristown. Samuel F. acquired a good English education in the public schools of Dundas and Faribault, and supplemented this with a two years' course of study at Carleton College. From February 1, 1887, to February 1, 1898, Mr. Donaldson served as deputy county auditor of Rice county, and from the last named date to September 1, 1898, he served by appointment, first as assistant cashier and then as cashier of the Security Bank of Faribault, in which he was financially interested. Selling this interest, he, on April 1, 1906, assumed the duties of receiver of the First National Bank of Faribault, and now—1910—holds that office, and also, since October 28, 1907, has held the office

of cashier of the Citizens' National Bank. On November 3, 1891, Mr. Donaldson married Miss Gertrude, a daughter of Myron A. and Gertrude (Major) Fredenburg, who moved from New York, their native state, and settled at Owatonna, where the father carried on general merchandising until his decease, in 1888. The mother now resides at Faribault. Mr. and Mrs. Donaldson have one child, Janet, by name.

**James J. Dow**, who has been superintendent of the Minnesota State School for the Blind ever since that school was organized as a separate institution, was born in India, on the continent of Asia, in a mission station, February 15, 1848. He was brought to America as an infant and was reared in Maine, the home of his ancestors. In 1863, filled with the same patriotism that had animated his forebears, he enlisted in Company F. Second Maine Cavalry, serving two years. In 1866 he came to Olmstead county, Minnesota, to which place his parents had previously moved, and three years later entered Carleton College, at Northfield, from which he graduated in 1874, receiving the degree of B. A. He and Myra A. Brown, who afterward became his wife, composed the first graduating class from that college. After graduation he became superintendent of public schools in Austin, Minn., and in August, 1875, he accepted the situation as principal of the blind department in the deaf, dumb and blind institution at Faribault. In 1881, with the reorganization of the institution, he was made superintendent of the school for the blind, a position he still retains to the honor of his reputation, to the credit of the city, and to the usefulness of the state. In 1878 Mr. Dow received the degree of M. A., and in 1899 he was still further honored by the conferring of the honorary degree of L. H. D. Mr. Dow has attained particular distinction throughout the state as an expert in his particular branch. He has been president of the state conference of corrections and charities, president of the American Association of Instructors to the Blind, a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, and a past commander of Michael Cook Post, G. A. R., of Faribault. He is a high degree Mason, has affiliated himself with the Commercial Club and has been one of the earnest workers in the Travelers' Club. He is a Republican in politics, and a member of the Congregational church.

Mr. Dow was married December 25, 1874, to Myra A. Brown, daughter of George Brown, of Monticello, Minn. To this union were born eight children: Charles, Henry, Mary, George and Myra are dead; James C. now lives in Butte, Mont., where he is in charge of the Butte substation of the Great Falls Power Company; Margaret is a student at Carleton and William G. attends the Faribault high school. Mrs. Dow died

January 22, 1908. J. C. Dow, father of James J., was a Free-will Baptist clergyman and missionary to India, going from East Livermore, Me., to Midnapore, India, and returning to Buckfield, Me., when James J. was an infant. The mother was Hannah G. Bacon, also a devout missionary. The colonial ancestor of J. J. Dow was Silas Gould, of Dunstable, Mass. He served at Bunker Hill, was in the battle of Long Island and crossed the Delaware with Washington. At the time of the battle of Bunker Hill he was but fifteen years of age. Later he was at one time one of Washington's body guard.

**P. H. J. M. Donkers** is a well known educator, of Faribault, Minn. He is a native of Huisseling, Holland, and was born May 13, 1878, the son of John and Theodora van den Bogaard Donkers, also natives of Holland, who came to this country in March, 1889, and settled first at Faribault, Minn., whence they moved to Walcott, Rice county, where the father was engaged in general farming until his decease, June 15, 1904. The mother still survives and lives on the family homestead.

Our subject attended the public schools in Holland six years, and after coming to Minnesota attended the public schools of Rice county, after which he pursued Normal work at Brown's business college in Faribault. In 1896, at the age of eighteen, he began teaching in his home county. At twenty he entered the scientific department of the Valparaiso University. Returning home in 1899, he spent another year teaching, after which he again pursued his course at the university and was graduated from that institution with the degree of bachelor of science in 1901. The two years following Mr. Donkers taught school in Rice county, and in 1903, in partnership with Mr. A. A. Erblang, bought what was then called Brown's business college, but which has since become known as the Faribault Business and Normal College.

In 1906 Mr. Donkers purchased his partner's interest and since that time has been sole proprietor of this institution. Since his connection with the college its curriculum has been greatly extended, and now embraces commercial, stenographic, normal and civil service courses. The attendance has steadily increased and the college now enrolls from 100 to 125 students. Besides day sessions during ten months of the year, night sessions are also held in winter, giving those who are employed during the day an opportunity to improve themselves along the various lines of work that are being offered there. As president of this college Mr. Donkers has done much in the way of getting young people to realize the importance of a practical education, and his influence has been far-reaching. And this, together with the



excellent work that is being done, has brought about the rapid growth of the Faribault Business and Normal College.

Professor Donkers is also a practical farmer, always spending his summer vacation there, and one of the great dairymen of Rice county. He takes a lively interest in affairs generally, has been secretary of the Minnesota Milk Shippers' Association for the past five years. He is Democrat in politics, a member of the Knights of Columbus and Catholic Order of Foresters, and a Roman Catholic. He is one of a family of six children, the others being John H., the eldest; Nicolas and Henrietta, who live in Warsaw, Rice county; Lamberdina, who lives in Faribault, and Dora, the youngest, who resides in Cannon City.

**George W. Damp**, deceased, a prosperous farmer and a veteran of the Civil War, was born in Ohio, May 11, 1837, going to Dodge county, Wisconsin, with his parents at the age of nine years. There he received a public school education and attended Appleton University two terms. In 1861 he joined the First Wisconsin Cavalry and served in Company B until mustered out. He then returned to Madison, Wis., and shortly afterward engaged in farming with his father in Clyman, Wis. In 1865 he came to Minnesota and located in Cannon City township, where he purchased a farm of 160 acres. To this he later added 140 acres. On this tract he conducted general farming and stock raising until 1899, when he sold 160 acres, moved to Faribault, purchased a tract of land and built a home, where he lived for the remainder of his days. Mr. Damp had the honor of representing his district in the state legislature, he was school treasurer twenty years and served his county and state in other ways. He was interested in starting the Dean Creamery, was its president for a long period and a stockholder at the time of his death. He was active in everything that assisted in the progress of his community, and his death, November 28, 1908, was widely mourned. Mr. Damp was married in Wisconsin in 1864 to Jennie Jones, who died in 1892, leaving an adopted daughter, Elda. Mr. Damp was again married, January 5, 1895, at St. Paul, to Mary Northrop, daughter of Rev. J. A. and Harriet P. (Parsons) Northrop, natives respectively of New York and Massachusetts, the former dying in Iowa and the latter in Duluth. Mrs. Mary Damp was born at Clymer, Wis., October 14, 1846. Mr. and Mrs. Damp reared the two children of Mrs. Damp's brother, James A. Northrop. They are Adele Northrop, a trained nurse, and Harriet P. Northrop, a stenographer.

**John B. Donaldson** was born in Holmes county, Ohio, August 30, 1837, and is a son of William and Eliza (Beatty) Donaldson. Of eleven children born to them, six sons and three daughters are now living. Four of the sons served in the Civil War. The

father was born in Virginia, March 18, 1812, and during the early forties moved overland, with his family, from Ohio to the then territory of Indiana, settling near Eagle village. Thence, in March, 1856, he went to Rice county, Minnesota, reaching Morristown on Easter Sunday, March 23. Here he pre-empted a quarter section of land and built a log house, which served as the family's pioneer home. And here he passed the remainder of his days, dying October 29, 1859, of typhoid fever. His widow lived there till 1870, when she moved into the village of Morristown, where she died June 17, 1895.

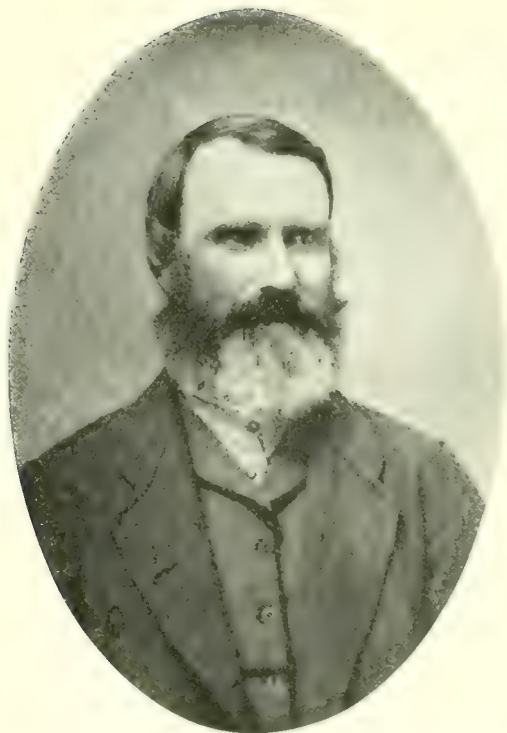
Our subject acquired his education in the district schools, and in the early days had all the varied experiences of the pioneer settlers in a new country. Hastings was the nearest trading point, and hauling was done largely with ox teams. Times were strenuous and money was scarce and resort was had to any and all means of making an honest dollar. In 1858 Mr. Donaldson gathered as high as 200 pounds of ginseng per day, for which he received 5 cents per pound. In later years he has gathered ten pounds per hour, which he sold for 40 cents per pound. He was also a successful trapper, and his experiences in this line with Ezra Crandall, now of Steele county, would fill a volume. In 1864 Mr. Donaldson enlisted and served with the Third Iowa Battery till the close of the Civil War. For many years he has dealt somewhat extensively in real estate and now owns a considerable portion of what is known as Donaldson's addition to Morristown. He is a man of commanding influence in his community and while he is recognized as a leader in local politics, he has declined office, except in 1874, when the village was incorporated, he served as the first street commissioner. He voted for the first governor of the state, Ramsey, and his third vote was cast for Abraham Lincoln. Since then his political views have undergone various changes and perhaps are best expressed in the platform which he proposes for a new party: "First, honest money, the gold, silver and paper coinage of the constitution, full legal tender for all debts, public and private, regulating its value by controlling the amount in circulation, which shall not exceed \$50 per capita; second, free coinage of silver and gold at the ratio of sixteen to one, the product of American mines; third, a tariff for revenue and protection; fourth, a graduated income tax; fifth, government savings banks; sixth, the control of railroads through state and interstate laws; seventh, the government should never relinquish the right to pay its creditors in any kind of legal tender money; eighth, United States retail liquor tax should be \$50 instead of \$25, and a retail tobacco tax of \$5 should be levied and the states should adhere strictly to the high license system; ninth, to ask gold

bonds evinces an inordinate and limitless greed and to grant the request through legislation is adhering to the enemy, giving him aid and comfort."

In 1867 Mr. Donaldson married Elizabeth Powers, the ceremony being performed by George N. Baxter, of Faribault. Of four children born to Mr. and Mrs. Donaldson, the eldest, Mary Louise, born November 22, 1868, is married to Mr. George Soules, of Oregon, and has two children, Harold and Naomi; John B., the second child, died in infancy; Alma, born in 1874, was married to Joseph Benjamin in 1896 and has four children, viz., Homer, born in 1899, Mary born in 1901, Donald, born in 1903, and Jewell, born in 1905. Their youngest child, Clement J., born in 1880, is in the railway service. He married Luella Reed and lives at Randolph. Mrs. Donaldson, who is a sister of the late Hon. John N. Powers, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work, is the only surviving member of the Powers family. She is a woman of high ideals and fine accomplishments and a life member of the mother Christian Science church, of Boston, Mass. Mr. Donaldson has contributed numerous articles to various journals, treating especially of the silver question, of which he has made a study and on which he is regarded an expert.

**Herbert W. Donaldson** was born at Faribault, Minn., in 1879 and is a son of Isaac N. and Sarah A. (Decker) Donaldson. His paternal grandparents were Charles M. and Dorcas (Felton) Donaldson. The family of the former was prominent in the development of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and the family of the latter lived in Huntingdon county. Our subject's father was born in Westmoreland county December 10, 1841, and there attended the district school. When eight years old he moved south with his parents to Wells county, Indiana, and lived there till he attained his majority. In March, 1862 his family settled at Bridgewater, Rice county, Minnesota, where his father bought a tract of 120 acres of land, which he helped to clear and improve. Later he bought a farm of eighty acres and cultivated it till 1871, when he joined his brothers, Robert F. and John F., and engaged in mercantile business at Dundas, under the firm name of Donaldson Brothers, which was continued till 1875, when he was appointed postmaster at Dundas. In 1877 he was elected register of deeds for Rice county and served three terms, and later served one year as deputy register of deeds under Mr. M. H. Cole. He was elected county auditor in 1884 and served in that office fourteen years. During all the years of his residence here he has been active in the development of Rice county. He came hither when there was but one house between his father's farm and Faribault on the St. Paul & Faribault railroad, and helped to hew the logs and build many





GEORGE DORRANCE



of the first houses south and west of that city. In January, 1899, Mr. Donaldson took up his residence at Morristown to engage in banking and on April 5 of that year opened the Morristown State Bank, of which he was cashier, and later on he became its president. His son, who had been assistant cashier, becoming cashier.

On November 12, 1861, Mr. Donaldson married Sarah, daughter of Jonathan Decker, of Lebanon county, Pennsylvania. Of six children born to them, the oldest, Mary C., is married to Mr. O. F. Wilson; Jennie R., who was married to Mr. Arthur Nichols, was accidentally killed by being thrown from a buggy at Warsaw; Samuel F. is cashier of a bank at Faribault; Annie D. is married to Mr. E. E. Nichols, and Martha O. married Mr. D. W. Nichols.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Donaldson are loyal members of the Congregational church at Faribault and he is also connected with the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Herbert W., grew up in his native place and there acquired his education in the common and high schools. He entered his father's bank as assistant cashier when he was twenty years of age and filled that position till April 4, 1905, when he was made cashier. He was also for nine years a partner with Mr. George Molm, under the firm name of Molm & Donaldson, in the live stock business. He takes a lively interest in whatever pertains to the betterment of the community and is esteemed as one of the wideawake and enterprising young men of his town. From April 1, 1902, till April 4, 1905, he was village recorder and rendered efficient service as such. He is active in benevolent and fraternal organizations, being a member of Cannon River Lodge, No. 52, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, of Morristown, also of the chapter and commandery of Knights Templar at Faribault; and belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the same city, being a charter member of the latter. Mr. Donaldson is unmarried.

**George Dorrance**, a pioneer resident of Rice county, now deceased, was born in Middlebury, Vt., in 1814. He was a son of Joseph and Esther (Martin) Dorrance, both natives of Vermont. Mr. Dorrance was a hatter by trade and followed this occupation up to the time of his death. The subject of this sketch was educated in the common schools of Middlebury, Vt. After leaving school he learned the carpenter's trade, at which he worked in Middlebury until 1836, when he came west and located at Green Bay, Wis., where he worked at his trade until 1842; at that time he moved to Rock county, Wisconsin, where he bought eighty acres of land, on which he carried on general farming until September, 1854, when he sold

his farm and came to Minnesota, locating in Walcott township, where he took up a claim of 160 acres and did a general farming up to the time of his death, November 10, 1882. Mr. Dorrance was first married in 1841, to Etha Linda Lee, a native of St. Johnsbury, Vt., who was a Methodist Episcopal missionary to the Indians at Green Bay, Wis., coming there in 1836. She died in the year 1851. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Dorrance: Esther, who married David Strang, and is now living at Bridgewater, Iowa; Ralph Lee, who died in 1874, at Fontanelle; Cyrus, Lucy and Mary, who died in infancy. For his second wife he married Miss Hanna M. Putnam, on December 31, 1853. She was a daughter of John and Rebecca (Wells) Putnam, natives of Montgomery county, New York. Mr. Putnam was by trade a furrier and skin dresser. He came west in 1838, locating in Wilmington county, Ill., where he bought eighty acres of land, and carried on general farming until 1842, when he sold his farm and moved to Rock county, Wisconsin, where he lived with his children, until he came to Minnesota with Mr. and Mrs. Dorrance, where he died, in Walcott, September 19, 1864. Mrs. Putnam died at Wilmington, Ill., in 1838. Mrs. Dorrance was born in Gloversville, N. Y., May 1, 1832. She left there with her parents when she was four years old, locating in Wisconsin, where she received a part of her education, and the balance in the schools of Illinois. After leaving school she taught up to the time of her marriage. Four children were born to Mr. Dorrance by his second wife. Laura E. taught school until her marriage, December 3, 1888; her husband is a farmer and they live in Medicine county, Minnesota. George A. married Ineze McCallum, December 24, 1902, and is a farmer living in Cass county, North Dakota. Ada M. was married in 1883 to James Kennedy, who is a farmer living near Horseville, N. D. Louis J., who was born in 1864, and lives on the farm with his mother. Mr. Dorrance was a Republican in his political views, and was a member of the Congregational church. Before coming west he was captain of the militia of Middlebury, Vt. He was a member of the Patrons of Husbandry and master of the lodge. He held at different times all the offices on the school board, and served on the town board in some capacity from the organization of the town of Walcott until seven years before his death.

**J. M. Drozda**, whose parents were natives of Bohemia, was born in Wheatland, Minn., September 22, 1882. He is a son of W. and Mary Drozda. His father was a carpenter, who came to this country and located first in Chicago, working at his trade a short time, and then went to Milwaukee, where he remained

for a number of years. He moved from there to New Prague, where he worked at his trade for about twelve years, going from there to Wheatland village, remaining there for some time and later moving to Wesley, where he and his wife are now living. J. M. Drozda was educated in the public schools at Wesley. After leaving school he entered the foundries at New Prague and St. Paul as a molder and continued there until 1900. In that year he came to Lonsdale and entered the general mercantile business, which he continued until 1907. In September of the same year he sold out to LeSueur County Co-operative Company, but continued with the company as its manager. In 1903 he was appointed assistant postmaster, and in 1907 was made postmaster, and still holds that office. He was married February 28, 1905, to Mary Nohava, a daughter of Michael and Katherine (Tenka) Nohava, natives of Bohemia. They emigrated to this country and are now living on a farm in Wheatland township. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Drozda: Julia and Marion, both living at home with their parents. In politics Mr. Drozda is a Republican, and in religion he is a Roman Catholic.

**Charles W. Demann** is a native of Minnesota, having been born in Rice county, January 14, 1859. He is a son of Christian and Johana Demann. He attended the district school in Forest township, and worked on the farm until he was twenty years of age, when he went to Red Lake Falls. He farmed there until 1903, when he sold out and returned to Forest township, where he again engaged in general farming. He was married in 1891 to Mary Remick and they have a family of nine children. In his political views Mr. Demann is a Republican.

**J. E. Drake** is a native of Bridgewater township, Rice county, Minnesota, and now owns the family homestead where he was born, January 22, 1856. He is one of a family of nine children (eight of whom are living) born to E. S. and Martha (Clark) Drake. They were married in 1853, near Milwaukee, whither our subject's paternal grandfather had moved with his family from Lake county, Ohio. After their marriage our subject's parents went to Missouri, but a year later went to Houston county, Minnesota, then returned to Wisconsin, and the following year settled in Rice county, Minnesota, on the tract of land that became the family homestead, where they endured all the privations and hardships incident to pioneer life, Mr. Drake and a Mr. Bunday being the first to stake out claims between Bridgewater and Northfield, in 1854. Their first log house was supplanted four years later by a comfortable home. Mr. Drake was a man of indomitable courage and influence, and was appointed postmaster when the postoffice

was established at Chester, and held it two years. He also, besides carrying on his farming, conducted a hotel at Chester some four years. He attained the advanced age of eighty years and is survived by his widow, who now lives at Northfield. Our subject attended the first school organized in Rice county, known as the Drake school, and after finishing his schooling turned his attention to farming, and followed that occupation till 1904, when he retired from the farm and took up his residence in a beautiful home he had built on Washington avenue, in Northfield. Mr. Drake had always shown a commendable interest in public affairs and been a leader in the community. For twenty years he had served on the school board, had served on the board of supervisors two terms, had been road overseer twelve years, and in 1908 was elected alderman. Mr. Drake was largely instrumental in the building of the Farmers' Co-operative Elevator, being one of the first to sign for the incorporation; and after the destruction of the elevator by fire it was he who at once set on foot the movement to raise funds and rebuild. He is a director and secretary of the organization.

In 1879 Mr. Drake married Salina, daughter of Joseph and Lucy (Fretter) Spriggs, who came from England and settled in Rice county, in 1863, and who passed their last days in Northfield. Of eight children born to Mr. and Mrs. Drake, Joseph S., lives at Hinkley, Minn.; Ella lives at home; Forest H. resides at Minot, N. D., as does also Frank E.; Cora M., a milliner by occupation, and Ralph E., reside with their parents, and Lyle is dead. In political faith Mr. Drake is a Republican, but in local elections casts his ballot for the candidate whom he deems most worthy, regardless of party affiliations. He holds membership in the Ancient Order of United Workmen and in the Auxiliary Degree of Honor to the Workmen.

**Eventus O. Denison** was born in Miami county, Indiana, April 1, 1850. He is a son of James and Mary (McEachran) Denison; the father was a farmer and a native of New York state, while the mother was a native of Scotland. They came west and located in Indiana and farmed until 1855, when the farm was sold, and they came overland to Minnesota, locating on Section 18, town of Walcott, Rice county, where he homesteaded 160 acres and lived until his death. Mr. Denison was educated in the district schools of Walcott, and spent one year in the public schools at Faribault. After leaving school he came back and worked with his father on the farm, which had been enlarged by the purchase of an additional eighty acres, until the year 1875, when his father turned over eighty acres to him, on which he has lived and has done general farming up to the present time. He was married in 1874 to Miss Bar-



bara McEachran, who was a daughter of John McEachran. Her parents were both natives of Scotland and her mother died when she was but a child. Miss Barbara came to America and located in Walcott township, Minnesota, where she lived with the Denison family until her marriage to Mr. Denison. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Denison: Mary A., married to Ralph Worthley, who is a farmer, living in Martin county, Minnesota; Martha U., the first girl to register and graduate from the agricultural school at St. Anthony Park, St. Paul, now deceased; Mabel I., now deceased; James E., living in Portland, Ore.; B. Ethel, a teacher in Martin county, Minnesota; Ena L., also a teacher, and Donald O., who lives at home. In his political views Mr. Denison is a Republican. He attends the Methodist church and is a member of the Minnesota State Pioneer Association. He has been a member of the town board of supervisors, treasurer of the town, and also treasurer of the school board; each of these offices he held for several years, while Mr. Denison's father was the first town treasurer in Walcott.

**Christian Deike**, a retired farmer of Wheeling township, is a native son of Germany, and was born December 13, 1834, to Henry and Sophia (Kahle) Deike. The father was engaged in the occupation of a farmer until the time of his decease, in 1866. The mother passed away in 1837. Christian acquired his education in the common schools of Germany. After leaving school he worked on a farm until he was twenty years of age, and then served three years in the German army. In 1858 he emigrated to America and located in Illinois, where he worked on a farm until the fall of 1859. At this time he moved to Minnesota, and became one of the pioneers of Rice county, working on a farm in Wheeling township until 1861. At this time he bought a farm of 160 acres in Section 32, Wheeling township, which he improved and continued to farm until 1889, at which time he retired from active life, renting his farm to his nephew, William C. Deike, with whom he has made his home up to the present time. Mr. Deike was married in 1864 to Friderike, daughter of William and Maria (Helberg) Grote, natives of Germany, who emigrated to America in 1847, locating in Illinois. They remained in Illinois until 1856 and then came to Minnesota, locating in Rice county, Wheeling township, where Mr. Grote engaged in farming up to the time of his decease, 1871. Mrs. Grote died in 1900. Mrs. Deike, the wife of our subject, died in 1895. Mr. Deike is highly esteemed in his community, and has been identified with the public life of the vicinity for a number of years. He was a member of the town board for twenty-seven years; also served as county



commissioner for ten years. He served as secretary and treasurer of the German Evangelical church and school at Wheeling for twenty-five years. He also served as president and director of the Wheeling Mutual Farmers' Fire Insurance Company for thirty-two years. He was elected as the people's representative to the legislature one term, 1885 to 1887. Mr. Deike has also taken an active interest in the Mercantile Co-operative institutions, and is a stockholder in the Citizens' Bank at Faribault, and also in the Farmers' Elevator at Faribault. Mr. Deike is a Republican in politics, and in religious faith belongs to the German Evangelical church.

**Theodore J. Detert** is the eighth child in order of birth of a family of eleven children born to H. T. and Caroline (Speck) Detert and was born at Faribault, Minn., in 1879, August 16. His parents came from Germany, their native land, and settled at St. Louis, Mo., where they were married. He was a harness and collar maker by trade. He also served in the Thirteenth New York Cavalry, Company H. Of this family of eleven children, the eldest, Edward T., is married and lives at Faribault; John H. and Martin H. are both deceased; the former died at the age of thirty-five years and the latter at the age of thirty-one years. George W., the fourth child, is married and lives in Duluth, Minn. The others are, in the order of their birth, Charles W., of Faribault; Martha, of Duluth; Charlotte, deceased; our subject, Theodore J. Detert; Laura and Samuel L., of Faribault, and Caroline, of Duluth.

Theodore J. acquired his education in the public schools of Faribault and after leaving school was, for a time, engaged in farming. In the year 1900 he entered the employ of Messrs. Devery & Donohue, hardware dealers, and continued that relation till March 1, 1906, when he and Mr. B. Lockerly purchased their tin shop, and since that time has been engaged in the same. Mr. Detert gives special attention to all kinds of job and contract work in the line of sheet metal, furnaces, etc., and is well prepared with his thoroughly equipped, up-to-date establishment to meet all the demands of his constantly growing business.

Mr. Detert is identified with various fraternal and other organizations and is independent in his political and religious beliefs. On September 3, 1909, Mr. Detert married Miss Christy Louise Naseth, whose parents were natives of Norway. They settled in Kenyon, Minn., where they lived till death.

**C. H. Davison** was born in St. Louis, Mo., October 12, 1859, son of Daniel and Maria C. (Knapke) Davison. The father was a native of Pennsylvania and the mother of Germany. He was a Mississippi river pilot for fifty years, and died at Rochester

in 1900. The mother died in 1893. Mr. Davison went to the public school at Reeds Landing in his younger days and later attended Jones Commercial College at St. Louis, and at the University of Minnesota for one year. After leaving school he worked on the river for two years and then engaged in the drug business at Reeds Landing for three years, and at Groton, N. D., for four years. He then went back to the river and was a pilot until 1905. In 1896 he bought a farm in Forest township, on which he moved in 1905, and since that time has been engaged in breeding Holstein cattle and in general farming. He was married in 1886 to Bertha L. Gregg, a daughter of Lyman and Wilhelmina (Holzer) Gregg. Four children have blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Davison: Lyman, living at home; Ethel Bertha, now of Minneapolis, Pauline Rose, who died in 1902, and Margaret M., also living at home. Mr. Davison attends the Methodist Episcopal church and is a member of the Blue Lodge Chapter of Masons. In his political views he is a Democrat. He has held the office of school clerk of district No. 29 for five years, and he is a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator Company of Faribault and in the Forest Creamery.

John F. Donaldson, who has lived in Rice county, Minnesota, more than half a century, was born June 17, 1833, in Pennsylvania, and is a son of Charles and Dorcas (Felton) Donaldson, both natives of that state. The father was a tailor by trade. He also owned a farm, with rich coal mines, which yielded him considerable profit. He moved with his family to Wells county, Indiana, in 1849, and thence to Rice county, Minnesota, in 1861, and was engaged in farming till his death in 1881. The mother died in 1882. John F. was reared on his father's farm in Pennsylvania and there attended the public schools. After the family moved to Indiana and after attaining his majority he was employed as clerk in a general store of Mr. John Studebaker, at Bluffton, for two years. At the earnest solicitation of a friend, he moved to Minnesota, making the trip (March, 1856) overland in twenty-six days, and took up a claim four miles from Dundas and proceeded to make a home. He first built a house of rough logs, which was supplanted by a house of hewn logs two years later. Besides improving his farm, he operated a saw mill for a time, and engaged in teaming, hauling logs. At the opening of the Civil War in 1861 Mr. Donaldson responded to President Lincoln's call for men and enlisted and served with the Eleventh Regiment Minnesota Volunteers in the Army of the Cumberland. He served through the war, and after his discharge returned home and resumed his work of clearing land, hewing logs for the houses of pioneers, taking contracts for supplying wood and furnishing railroad ties, among these being a

contract for clearing the right of way for the Milwaukee railroad and a contract for supplying wood to Carleton College and St. Olaf's College, which he has continued for thirty-six winters, having in his employ all that time Captain Tonkey, who assisted in the capture of Booth. In carrying on this work Mr. Donaldson has had in his employ as many as a thousand men, chopping, clearing, hauling, etc. Mr. Donaldson has always taken an interest in public matters, and soon after the close of the war served as tax collector. He served as tax collector, town of Forest, in territorial days, when the collector was appointed by county commissioners. He was for eight years chairman of the board of supervisors of Bridgewater township and helped to lay out the public roads of the county. He owns 300 acres of fine land, which he leases, and lives in Dundas, where he is esteemed and respected by all. He is a charter member of the local lodge of the Ancient Order United Workmen, established in 1876, and also belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic at Northfield.

In 1865 Mr. Donaldson married Maria Jane Fulton, a native of Pennsylvania. Of four children born to them, James, the eldest, was killed by a railway train near Dundas; Mary E. is a teacher in the public schools; Charles E. died in 1881, and Harry is chief clerk of a large threshing machine company at Racine, Wis. All of the children were given the advantages of thorough schooling, Mr. Donaldson being a firm believer in the efficacy of education.

**George Durland** was born in Wheeling township, Rice county, Minnesota, December 27, 1856. He is a son of Hugh M. and Emma Durland, both natives of Pennsylvania, who came to Minnesota in the year 1855 and located in Wheeling township. His father was a farmer by occupation and he continued to reside on his farm until his death on January 4, 1897. His mother died in 1861. Mr. Durland attended the district school in Cannon City and after leaving school he worked with his father on the farm until the year 1882, when he purchased eighty acres in section twenty-six in Cannon City, to which he added by purchase 140 acres, where he carries on a general farming. Mr. Durland is the oldest thresher in the county, having started that business in 1874, when he was eighteen years old, and has continued in the same ever since. In 1882 he was married to Elizabeth Miller, a daughter of John and Dorothy Miller, both natives of Germany. John Miller, the father of Mrs. Durland, came to America and settled in Rice county, Minnesota, where he lived until his death in 1880. The mother is still living and resides with her daughter. They have three children, Emma, Charles and Esther, all residing at home with their parents. In his po-

litical views Mr. Durland is a Republican and has been road overseer in his district for a number of years. He is also a stockholder and director in the Farmers' Elevator Company, of Faribault.

**David Erb**, a prominent and successful farmer of Cannon City township, was born in Wheeling township, Rice county, January 5, 1858, and spent his boyhood in Wheeling township, Faribault city and Cannon City township. After leaving school he took up lumbering and river driving in northern Minnesota two years, and then worked in Washington, Idaho and Montana, gaining much experience and seeing much of the world. In the fall of 1886 he returned to Cannon City township, and remained a year. He then rented the Swartoudt farm, section twenty-six, where he lived for eight years, and subsequently purchased 100 acres of land in section twenty-three, Cannon City township. He soon added another 100, and now has about 175 acres under cultivation. He has brought his farm to a high degree of development, raises general crops, makes a specialty of dairying, and breeds Holstein cattle. Mr. Erb is an independent Republican, believing generally in the platform of the Republican party, but nevertheless deciding all questions for himself rather than blindly following the party leaders. He is now chairman of the board for school district No. 10, and he has been town supervisor and chairman of the township for several terms. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen. Mr. Erb was married November 29, 1888, to Emma L. Kiekennapp, daughter of William and Catharine (Lindeman) Kiekennapp, both of whom are dead. Mr. and Mrs. Erb are the parents of four children: Alice J., Leroy D., Florence E. and Minnie M., all at home. The family faith is that of the Methodist church. Mrs. Erb was born at Fort Snelling, October 4, 1863. The parents of David Erb were Christian and Genevieve (Kneedler) Erb. The father came to America at the age of thirteen years, and located in Illinois. He came to Minnesota in 1855 and to Wheeling township, Rice county, in 1856. Here he preempted 160 acres of land, and conducted the usual improvements until 1868, when he moved to Faribault. After two years he located in Cannon City township until 1874, when he purchased a farm lying in Cannon City township. He farmed until 1897, when he retired. He died in March, 1908, and his wife followed him to the grave just one year later.

**Nelson S. Erb** is secretary and manager of the Faribault Engine Manufacturing Company, makers of a fine grade of gasoline engines. He was born in Canada, March 9, 1861, son of William and Lydia (Bowman) Erb, the father being engaged in the saw mill and manufacturing business. William Erb died in October, 1906, and his wife in November, 1902. The subject of this sketch



received his education in Canada, and being much interested in dumb animals, decided to devote his life to alleviating their sufferings. Accordingly he entered the Ontario Veterinary College and graduated with honors in 1888. In August of that year he came to Faribault and began his practice here, continuing for six years with much success. He then took up railroad work, which he followed until 1909, when he purchased an interest in the Faribault Engine Manufacturing Company and assumed his present position. Mr. Erb is a high degree Mason, belongs to the Elks, the United Workmen, the Royal Arcanum and the Faribault Commercial Club. He is also an enthusiastic member of the Automobile Club. Mr. Erb was married November 15, 1894, to Ellen Grant, born February 14, 1864, daughter of Donald Grant, of Faribault. To this union one daughter, Mary A., was born January 25, 1896. Mr. Erb has a pleasant residence on the corner of Third avenue and Seventh street. He and his family attend the Congregational church. Mr. Erb was elected mayor of the city of Faribault, April 5, 1910.

**George H. Eigenbrodt**, who has always lived in Faribault, Minn., where he was born April 20, 1869, is one of the enterprising and prosperous business men of the city. His parents, John and Louise Eigenbrodt, came from Germany, their native land, to New York and thence went to Dakota county, Minnesota, where the father worked at his trade as a carpenter. From there he moved to Prairieville and engaged in farming till 1884, when he moved his family to Faribault, where he died in 1889 and where his widow is now living—1910.

After completing his studies in the public schools at Faribault, George H. clerked for a time in a grocery store. In 1887 he formed with Mr. Lanfenberger a partnership which continued till 1900, when he sold his interest in the concern to his partner, and on September 6, 1901, opened the up-to-date store, which he has since continued with great success, building up an extensive and constantly growing trade. Mr. Eigenbrodt has devoted himself closely to his business, and has found little leisure for outside matters. He takes no specially active part in political matters, but adheres to the principles of the Republican party. In religious faith he is Evangelical. He is a member of Faribault Commercial Club. In May, 1891, Mr. Eigenbrodt married Miss Louise, a daughter of Henry and Louisa Trout, who settled on a farm at Castlerock, Dakota county, Minnesota, where his father died.

Mr. and Mrs. Eigenbrodt have three children, named in order of their births, Helen Mabel, Mabel Louise, and Erma.

**Louis J. Eisert** is a native of Steele county, Minnesota, and was born in 1876 to Charles G. and Mary Eisert. The father



settled in Steele county prior to 1860. He was a veteran of the Civil War and died April 27, 1907. His widow now—1910—resides in Morristown. They had five sons and one daughter. Louis J., the fourth in order of birth, acquired his education in the common schools of Deerfield and grew to manhood on his father's farm. After attaining his majority, he served an apprenticeship of two years at the tinner's trade, and in 1902 clerked in a hardware store on the east side of Division street in Morristown. A year later he turned his attention to the furniture and undertaking business, which he carries on in his substantial two-story building, twenty-four by seventy feet in dimensions, built by him for that purpose. On the first floor he carries a line of furniture, together with a large and complete assortment of wallpaper, while the second floor is used for the undertaking department. Mr. Eisert is a licensed embalmer. Aside from his regular business he takes an active interest in the affairs of the community and has served in the village council and as treasurer in 1909, and 1910 was elected president of the village. He has also held an official position in the Morristown Telephone Company. Mr. Eisert is a member of the State Lodge of Knights of Pythias, No. 3, at Minneapolis, and also belongs to the Cannon River Lodge, No. 52, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. In all his affairs he is prompt and reliable and is esteemed throughout the community as a man of genuine worth. Mr. Eisert is married to Leona, daughter of George and Caroline (Buck) Breed, the former of whom is deceased, and the latter making her home with her five daughters, Mrs. Eisert, Mrs. George Semon, Mrs. William Schneider, Mrs. Clyde Dorn and Mrs. Roy Durrin.

**George Empey** is a native of Canada, and was born January 29, 1831, son of Phillip and Lavina (Dillabaugh) Empey, both of whom were natives of Canada, where they spent their lives. George came to the United States in June, 1865, and settled in Northfield, where he was employed in the lumber mills in Minneapolis for a couple of years, and in 1867 he purchased a farm of 200 acres in Greenvale township, Dakota county, and remained here until 1890, when he came to Northfield and made a permanent residence. January 10, 1859, he married Mary Irving, who was born in Scotland, March 14, 1838, daughter of James and Gracie Irving, who came to Canada in the early days and remained there all the rest of their lives. Mr. and Mrs. Empey have four children: James I., who was born May 21, 1860, and married Lillian Cowell. They reside in Olivia, Minn. Alexander, born July 31, 1862, was married October 3, 1894, to May Gilmore. They reside at Farmington, and have four children, of whom three are living: Clifford, Merrill (deceased), Ruth and

George. Agnes Isabella, born May 31, 1865, married Dana Hoyt, December 27, 1888, and they reside at Glenwood, Minn. They have one daughter, Elsie L., who is a school teacher. Gracie G., born January 15, 1870, married Clarence Bunday, of Westport, Minn., June 7, 1893, and they have two children. James Empey and wife have three children, Olive, Irving, and Richard. January 10, 1909, Mr. and Mrs. Empey celebrated their golden wedding by a reunion of all their children and grandchildren and many friends. Mr. Empey was one of the organizers of the Farmers' Elevator at Northfield, and served as president for one year and is at present vice-president, and is one of the directors, which office he has held since the beginning. Mr. Empey is a highly respected and influential citizen, and has served as a member of the city council for a number of years. He is a Republican, and he and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

**William L. Eddy** has had a varied experience and is counted among the enterprising citizens of Morristown, Minn. He was born in Mason county, Illinois, in 1861. He comes of sturdy New England stock and is a son of Reuben Eddy, a native of Coloraine, Mass., where also his grandparents, Ebenezer and Phoebe Eddy, were born and lived. William L. was a precocious child and began attending school in Morristown when four years of age, his teacher being a Miss Philbrick. His father then moved onto a farm and he attended the district schools and when thirteen years old passed an examination and received a second grade teacher's certificate. He again took up his home in Morristown in 1879, attended the public school one year, then from 1880 to 1886 learned and worked at the cooper's trade. He next spent two years farming at Redwood Falls, after which he worked at his trade in Faribault and Sheffield Mills. Returning to Morristown, he was in the hardware business as a member of the firm of Jackson and Eddy for a year and a half, but sold out to Messrs. Soule Brothers and returned to his farm in Morristown township. In 1891 he again moved into the village, but continued farming till 1893, when he went back to Faribault and clerked a year in a hardware store. He again resumed farming in 1894 and still later conducted a hardware store under the firm name of Richter and Eddy. When this business was burned out in 1900, Mr. Eddy turned his attention to the live stock trade and was thus engaged in 1903, when he assumed the duties of his present office as postmaster at Morristown under appointment of President Roosevelt. Mr. Eddy is active in benevolent and fraternal organizations, being a past master of the Cannon River Lodge, No. 52, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; clerk of the Modern Brotherhood of America, member of the Modern Wood-

men of America and a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Mr. Eddy is also village treasurer. In 1887 he married Miss Orpha, daughter of Mr. A. E. Bailey, of Morristown. They have two charming and accomplished daughters, Zoe and Esther.

**Charles F. Ebel**, clerk of the district court of Rice county, is a native of Northfield, Minn., born March 28, 1873. He received his early education in the public schools, attended the Northfield high school, and then took a business course at West Superior, Wis. Returning to Minnesota, he engaged in the mercantile business. In 1895 he came to Faribault, and in 1899 moved to Morristown, Minn., and opened a general store in partnership with Fred Laufenburger. In 1902 he came to Faribault and opened a general store in partnership with Fred Laufenburger. In the fall of 1905 he assumed his present duties for the county. Mr. Ebel is one of the popular young men of Faribault, and his friends predict for him a bright future. In 1908 he was president of the Taft-Sherman Club, of Faribault, which did such efficient work for the Republican party, and his work in the Faribault Commercial Club has also won commendation, he being a charter member of the club and a member of the membership committee. Being of a sociable nature, he has allied himself with the Knights of Pythias, the Elks, the United Workmen, the Modern Brotherhood and the Yeomen. Mr. Ebel was married in September, 1899, to Emma Laufenburger, daughter of Fred Laufenburger, now assistant postmaster of Faribault. Mr. and Mrs. Ebel have a pleasant home on Sixth street.

August and Mary (Kester) Ebel, natives of Germany, were the parents of Charles F. Ebel. They came to America, located in Holden township, Goodhue county, and then went to Northfield, where the father was a manufacturer. They later came to Faribault to live. Both parents are still living.

**F. A. Emery**, a substantial farmer of Bridgewater township, was born there September 3, 1868, son of A. L. and Mary A. (Galiger) Emery, natives of New York and Canada respectively. His father, who was a farmer, came to Minnesota in 1855 and located in Bridgewater township, where he farmed until about 1884; he then moved to Faribault, where he has followed the carpenter trade up to the present time, being employed in Leache's factory. He is a veteran of the Civil War. The mother is still living. Our subject received his education in the district schools of Bridgewater, which was supplemented by an additional schooling at Faribault. Leaving school he worked in Leache's factory in Faribault a number of years, and later he worked on a farm until 1899, at which time he bought the old homestead in Bridgewater township, on which he has carried a general farming up to

the present time. He has bred Holstein cattle on a quite extensive scale. On October 10, 1894, Mr. Emery married Cina, daughter of Chauncey and Mary Squier, father a native of Pennsylvania and the mother a native of Ireland. They spent the greater part of their lives in this country. Mr. Squier enlisted in the army and served in the Civil War. He died in 1886; the mother still lives at Faribault. Mr. and Mrs. Emery have one adopted daughter, Myrtle. Mr. Emery affiliates with the Republican party. He is a member of the Methodist church, and has served on the school board.

**W. W. Eldred**, a well-to-do farmer of Bridgewater township, was born in Illinois, August 16, 1850, son of Wilson and Harriet (Brown) Eldred. The father, a native of New York state, came to Minnesota in 1859 and located in Morristown, where he bought land, and the next spring—1860—he died. The mother died in 1861. The subject of this sketch acquired his education in the district schools of Morristown, and he also attended school in Faribault. Leaving school he worked on a farm for some time, and in 1880 he bought twenty-three acres, to which he later added an additional purchase of ninety-three acres in section twelve, Bridgewater township, where he remained until 1902. He then sold this farm and bought 107 acres in sections twenty-seven and twenty-eight, Bridgewater township. He lived in Dundas for two years previous to moving on to the last named farm, where he still remains, carrying on general and diversified farming. Mr. Eldred was married in 1876 to Jennie, daughter of Peter and Jane Greenville. The fruit of this union is one child, Harriet, now Mrs. Arthur Taylor, of Bridgewater. Mr. Eldred believes in the principles of the Republican party in politics, and in religious matters he adheres to the Episcopal church. He belongs to the order of United Workmen, and has served on the town board about seven years.

**George Sidney Edwards**, one of the prosperous farmers of Morristown township, Rice county, Minnesota, was born December 6, 1858, in Livingston county, New York. He is the second of a family of nine children (eight of whom are now living—1910) born to Andrew and Elmira (White) Edwards. The father, also a native of Livingston county, New York, was a farmer by occupation. He moved with his family to Green county, Wisconsin, in 1861, and settled on a farm of eighty acres, which he improved and cultivated. In 1874 he sold out and removed to Rice county, Minnesota, where he worked leased land in Morristown township two years, then bought the northwest quarter of section twenty for \$10 per acre, fourteen acres of which was under cultivation. He and his son George, our subject, cleared the remainder of this tract, and here he made his home and carried on



general farming and reared his family, and here he died in June, 1887, at the age of fifty-eight years. His widow, our subject's mother, who was a native of Ohio, still survives at the age of seventy-three years and makes her home with her children. Our subject's grandfather, Harvey Edwards, was a farmer; he married a Miss Shaw and they had a family of thirteen children, of which Andrew, our subject's father, was the fourth in order of birth. George S. was reared on his father's farm, and acquired his education in the district schools of Green county, Wisconsin, and also attended school two terms after the family moved to Rice county, Minnesota. On attaining his majority he began working leased farms in the neighborhood of his home, and continued this till 1895, when he bought the interests of the other heirs of his father and moved onto the old homestead. He has built a fine addition to the old farmhouse, and besides other improvements has built a substantial basement barn, thirty six by sixty feet in dimensions, with fourteen feet posts, and is now converting the place into a modern dairy farm. It is a beautiful place, with fine groves and with its equipment and facilities and fine herd of Durham and Holstein cows and other stock is rightly regarded as one of the model farms of Rice county. Mr. Edwards is now serving his third year as member of the local board of supervisors, has also been school director of district No. 7, and for nine years has held the office of school treasurer. Mr. Edwards is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America and is also a member of Cannon River Lodge, No. 52, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, of Morristown. In 1887 Mr. Edwards married Emma Rohl, a native of Michigan, and they have five children, named respectively, Lucy, who is married to Taylor Soules, a farmer; George, Arthur, Charles and Ralph.

**John Evert** was born in Forest township, Rice county, Minnesota, January 1, 1876. He is a son of John and Louise Evert, both natives of Germany, who came to America in the later sixties and located first at Dundas; they worked there for about five years and then bought a farm in Forest township, where the father did general farming until about the year 1904, when he retired from active work, renting the farm to his son, who has since carried it on. The mother died in the year 1880. John Evert attended the district school in Forest, and after leaving school he worked on the farm with his father, until he rented it from his father and commenced work for himself in 1904. He has five brothers and sisters: Henrietta Shultz, Louise Siemers, Gotlieb, now deceased, Charles, who lives at Faribault. In politics he is an independent voter, and in his religious belief he is a Lutheran.



**D. T. Eylward** was born in Webster township, Rice county, May 8, 1863. He is a son of John and Bridget (Martin) Eylward. They were both natives of Ireland, who came to Minnesota in the fifties and located in Webster township, Rice county, where he farmed up to the time of his death in February, 1898. The mother died in the spring of 1906. Mr. Eylward was a soldier in the Civil War and served in Company H, Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. Mr. D. T. Eylward attended the district schools of Webster, and after leaving school worked on the farm with his father, and at the time of his death became the owner of the old homestead, where he still remains. He was married September 10, 1907, to Mary McFadden, a daughter of Hugh and Rose (McGee) McFadden. Two children have blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Eylward: Daniel and Rose, both living at home with their parents. In his religious views he is a Roman Catholic, and in politics he is a Democrat. He has served as supervisor on the town board for three terms, and has also served on the school board. He is a stockholder in the Webster Creamery, and also in the Farmers' Elevator at Northfield.

**John Erb** was born in Cook county, Illinois, September 26, 1855, son of Christian Erb. John was educated in district schools of Wheeling and Bridgewater townships and in the public school of Faribault. Leaving school he worked on a farm, and in 1879 he bought 100 acres in section twenty-seven, Cannon City township. Later he bought forty acres additional in the same township, and in 1894 sold that farm, buying 230 acres in sections 22, 23, 26 and 27, where he still carries on general farming.

In 1880 Mr. Erb married Rose Leudeka, daughter of Charles Leudeka, of Farmington, Minn. They had eleven children.

Mr. Erb has long been a leading man in the community, highly esteemed by his fellow citizens. He has served on the town board several terms and fifteen years on the school board. At present he is financially interested in the Prairieville Creamery and the Dean Creamery, and was a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator, of Faribault. In political sentiment, Mr. Erb is a Republican, and his religious affiliations are with the Evangelical church.

**Joseph Errickson**, one of the enterprising citizens of Rice county, Minnesota, was born in Morristown township forty-four years ago. He is the youngest of a family of four children born to Ziram and Zilpha (Cole) Errickson, the other children being Henry, Sarah, who is married to Horace Oblinger, and Permillia, the wife of James Traver. The father was born in New Jersey, June 12, 1821, and spent his early life there. About 1848 he moved to Indiana and carried on farming till 1860, when he settled in Rice county. Here he bought land, first a small tract, add-

ing to it from time to time till he had a fine farm. He was an invalid nearly twenty years, and on February 15, 1898, passed away. His wife's death occurred in September, 1897. Our subject purchased the homestead and since his father's death has remodeled and erected new buildings, barn, granary, machine sheds, etc., and carries on general farming, giving special attention to breeding fine Durham cattle. Mr. Errickson has grown and prospered with the development of the county and is recognized as a leader in the community. He married Elizabeth Powers, who was an accomplished teacher in Morristown, and a daughter of Hon. John N. Powers. Mr. and Mrs. Errickson have a fondness for unique and rare things and in their home is to be found a splendid and valuable collection of relics and antiques, books and coins, some of them dating from remote antiquity, and which must be seen to be appreciated. Mrs. Errickson's father was born in Providence, R. I., September 22, 1836. He moved to McHenry county, Illinois, in 1856; thence to Wausau county in 1861, and there enlisted and entered the Civil war in Company I, Fourth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry and served three years. After his return from the war he studied law, and in 1867 was admitted to the bar and practiced his profession at Waseca. He settled in Morristown in 1875 and there edited "The Enterprise," the first newspaper there. He also published the Waterville "Review." He was elected to the state legislature in 1886 and also filled other minor offices of trust. In 1899 he moved to North Waterville and there died on March 1, 1901. On October 1, 1868, he married Annie Connor, and they have a family of eight children. He was a Catholic in religious faith and a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and a man of wide influence, greatly beloved by all who knew him.

**John A. Foster**, of Faribault, educator, real estate and fire insurance broker, was born in Kendallville, Ind., January 7, 1879. He attended the public schools, graduated from the Kendallville high school, received his B. A. degree from the State University of Indiana in 1901 and the following year took post-graduate work in his alma mater. During his undergraduate days he was a member of the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity; secretary and treasurer of the Co-operative Society, and was for four years a member of the football and track teams of the university, being captain of the former in 1900. After taking his post-graduate course in Indiana, he did graduate work at the University of Chicago. Thus equipped he came to Faribault as an instructor at Shattuck school in the mathematics department and as director of physical training. In the fall of 1909 he opened a real estate office in Faribault, and in addition to this is also director of

physical training at Shattuck school. He is a member of the Elks and of the Faribault Commercial Club. Mr. Foster prepared himself for business by a special study of various commercial branches and working for several months in a Minneapolis real estate office. Mr. Foster is a Republican in politics.

The parents of John A. Foster were Andrew J. and Tena (Stahl) Foster, natives of Ohio. The father served in the 159th Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was imprisoned in Libby and Andersonville prisons. After being exchanged and later mustered out he went to Kendallville, Ind., where for many years he was active in the religious, political and business life of the community. His health failed, however, as a result of an illness brought on by the exposures of army life, making necessary his retirement about twenty years ago.

**Edward R. Fitzsimmons** was born in Morristown township, Rice county, Minnesota, in 1861, and is the oldest of four children born to James and Catherine (Ryan) Fitzsimmons, both natives of Ireland. The father is the only survivor of nine children born to Patrick and Elizabeth (Cunningham) Fitzsimmons. He came to this country when he was eighteen years old with his parents, making the nine weeks' voyage in a sailing vessel, "Alice Fraser." Traveling by railway from New York to Chicago, thence to Rock Island, and from there up the river to the site of the present city of St. Paul, Mr. Fitzsimmons found employment and worked two years on the farm of Governor Ramsey, the first governor of Minnesota. Then, at the suggestion of and in company with his employer, with Mr. Coates, he started out in the winter of 1854-55 and drove via Faribault to Rice county and pre-empted 160 acres in section twelve, Morristown township, which he improved and which became the family homestead, where he has lived continuously up to the present time. He first cleared the timber from an acre of land and built a rude log cabin, sixteen by twenty-two feet in dimensions, and it was in that our subject was born. Clearing more land, he was able to plant a garden, potatoes, etc., and from the beginning patiently worked and endured the privations of these strenuous pioneer days. There were few settlers and in Faribault only three or four log cabins. Mr. Fitzsimmons raised his first crop of wheat on the old McKinzie farm, in section twelve. His tract of timber land was cleared by use of ox teams and crude tools, while the hay and grain were cut with the scythe and cradle and raked and bound by hand. The nearest trading point in the early days was Hastings, whither the produce was hauled with oxen over rough and primitive roads and exchanged for merchandise, the trip occupying three days. Wheat then sold for 45 cents per bushel and other products in like proportion, while flour and

other necessities sold at a high price. But with the passing of the years wonderful changes have been wrought! The log cabin long ago was supplanted by the comfortable farmhouse; improved roads have taken the place of the perilous byways of the early days; fertile fields are where dense forests then grew; the rude hamlet has given way to flourishing villages or populous cities, and everywhere are the evidences of prosperity and material growth. All this Mr. Fitzsimmons has lived to see and well deserves the rich reward that has come as the fruits of his labors. He has always taken an interest in the affairs of the community and was for many years school director. Both he and his wife are members of the Catholic church. Besides Edward R., our subject, their other children were: Mary, who died in early womanhood; Margaret, who is married to John Hanley, and has two children, Catherine and Rose; and Rose, who has charge of the home in their declining years of eighty-one and eighty-three of age. Edward R. settled in section seven in Warsaw township, Rice county, on a tract of twenty acres, finding it hard to get a start. He has added to his holdings from time to time and now—1910—owns 120 acres in section seven and forty acres in section twelve. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and is counted among the prosperous citizens of his section; is a director of the Warsaw Creamery Company and member of the village school board. In 1887 he married Miss Mary Mulcahy, of Waseca county. They have two children, viz.: Carrie, an alumnæ of the Sisters' Academy at Faribault, and Pearl, now a student at the same school. Mr. Fitzsimmons and his family are identified with the Immaculate Conception Catholic church, of Faribault.

**A. F. Fox**, one of the well-to-do farmers of Cannon City township, was born in Monroe county, Ohio, on November 3, 1847. His father, a native of Maryland, carpenter by trade, and mother, a native of Ohio, came to Minnesota in 1870 and located in Bridgewater township, Rice county, where they farmed up to the time of his father's death in 1898. The mother died in 1904. Our subject was educated in Ohio. Leaving school, he went to work on a farm for a year, and then came to Iowa in 1869. In the spring of 1870 Mr. Fox removed to Bridgewater township, Rice county, Minnesota, where he bought a farm on which he did general farming until 1884. He sold the farm and bought another in section twenty-three, Cannon City township, which he later sold, buying again in section fourteen, where he remained for some time and then sold and moved to the village of Cannon City, where he bought two blocks. Our subject lived here until 1899, at which time he sold his village property and bought eighty acres in section nine, where he still remains, carrying on



general farming. Mr. Fox was married in 1876 to Clara A. Walrod. They have seven children: Ethel, Claude, Clarence, William, Arthur, Ralph, Forest. Mrs. Fox died in 1897. Our subject was married a second time to Mrs. Hally B. Cowles, widow of Fred Cowles. Mr. Fox is a member of the Congregational church. In politics he is a Democrat. He has always shown a commendable interest in all that relates to the betterment of his community, is highly esteemed by all who know him, and is at the present time chairman of the town board of supervisors. He has served on the school board for several years past, and is at present a stockholder in the creamery at Cannon City.

**William J. Grant**, a retired farmer and railroad man of Faribault, was born in Canada, February 10, 1847. After his education in the district schools was completed, he took up farming with his father on the old homestead, removing to Faribault with his parents in 1874, and acquiring a tract of 333 acres in Warsaw township, where he followed general diversified farming till 1902. Mr. Grant has always been a believer in scientific and intelligent agriculture, and by adherence to these principles and hard work built up one of the best farms in the county. His next line of business was railroad construction work, acting as superintendent. He is now retired from active work and spends his time looking after his property interests. In politics, the Republican party numbers him among its loyal followers. He served as road overseer of Warsaw township many years. November 25, 1873, he was married to Eliza Hedges, daughter of Robert and Menia (Sample) Hedges, of Warsaw township. Nine children blessed this marriage, all of whom are living. Named in order of their ages they are: Nora B., now Mrs. H. C. Summe; Anna M., married to Walter Hunt, of Hibbing, Minn.; Emma M., teaching in the Hibbing schools; Eliza A., a teacher in the schools of South St. Paul; Mary P., engaged in teaching in Wilmar, Minn.; Florence, teaching at Dexter, Minn.; and Gordon E., Lee W., and Howard H., all living at home. The family residence is on Third avenue, South. John B. and Anna (Morris) Grant, parents of William J., were natives of Canada, the father being a finished timber contractor, dealing especially with ship building firms. In 1874 he moved to Faribault with his wife and family and engaged in railroad contraing and farming till his death in December, 1901. His wife passed away in June, 1903. Robert and Menia (Sample) Hedges, parents of Mrs. William J. Grant, were born in England, emigrating to Canada in their younger days, and then to Stillwater, Minn., where their daughter Eliza was born, February 13, 1855. Twelve years later they came to Warsaw township and pre-empted a



quarter section, on which the father followed farming till his death, March 4, 1903. His wife is still living.

**Eugene H. Gipson**, a well-known attorney of Faribault, has taken a prominent interest in civic righteousness, and has done excellent work as president of the Good Citizenship League of Faribault. Mr. Gipson was born in Watertown, N. Y., August 9, 1877, and was brought to Faribault by his parents at the age of two years. He received his earlier education in the public schools and attended Shattuck school from 1893 to 1896. Then he entered the State University of Minnesota, took a two years' course in the academic department and graduated from the law department in June, 1901, being admitted to the bar the same month, since which date he has successfully practiced. Mr. Gipson is an active Republican, and in 1905-06 served as county attorney. He is a stockholder in the Citizens' National Bank and a member of the Faribault Commercial Club. Attorney Gipson was married June 4, 1902, at Warsaw, N. Y., to Emily Benedict, born September 22, 1878. The Gipson home has been blessed with two daughters, Gertrude, born in June, 1904, died in August of the same year. Helen was born November 10, 1906. Mr. and Mrs. Gipson are members of the Episcopal church. The family residence is at 610 West Sixth street. The parents of Eugene H. Gipson were Henry S. and Gertrude (Middleton) Gipson, natives of New York. They came to Faribault in 1879 and here the father practiced law. He died in 1900 and his wife in 1880.

**Rev. Edmund Gale**, for many years a Congregational pastor in Faribault, was born November 12, 1821, at Siddlesham, a village near Chichester, England, his parents being Edmund Gale and Hannah Noel, both members of families long resident in that part of Sussex. Mr. Gale was cast upon his own resources at an early age, supporting himself from the time he was thirteen years old. Under these circumstances his education was necessarily self-acquired, but he became successively a school teacher, a medical student, and finally a Congregational minister, having been ordained in 1848. After pastorates in Chereton, Devon, and Over, Cheshire, he came to the United States in 1855, settling first at Geneva, Ashtabula county, Ohio, where he became pastor of the Congregational church, and where he met his future wife, Miss Ruby Clara Cowles, whose grandfather, Noah Cowles, a revolutionary soldier, had been one of the earliest settlers of the town. Mr. Gale and Miss Cowles were married August 28, 1856, at Oberlin, Ohio.

Mr. Gale was successively pastor of Congregational churches at Geneva, Lenox and Unionville, Ohio; Galesburg, Mich.; of the First Congregational church at Faribault (1866-1873); at

Jefferson, Madison and Chagrin Falls, Ohio; and then for eleven years of the United Congregational church of Faribault (1881-1892). Reaching the age of seventy years, he retired from the cares of this large parish, but afterwards ministered to one or two smaller churches in Minnesota. He died at St. Paul, March 19, 1899, his wife having pre-deceased him at Medford, Steele county, Minnesota, on June 27, 1896. Mr. and Mrs. Gale are buried in Maple Lawn cemetery, near Faribault, and a stained window has been placed in the Congregational church in their memory. They are survived by three children: Noel, a lawyer in New York city; Edmund, a farmer in Chico, Cal., and Mrs. Georgina Henke, of St. Paul.

Among many published estimates of Mr. Gale, the following, in the writer's opinion, best illustrate his well-known and striking characteristics of thought and action:

"The death of Mr. Gale brings a feeling of personal bereavement not only to the members of the church and congregation to whom he so long and faithfully ministered but to many in the city at large who have admired his strong traits and many virtues. As a preacher he was endowed with more than ordinary ability, and had he possessed stronger ambition and less strength of local attachment it is probable that his talents would have secured for him a wider sphere of usefulness than that in which his professional life was passed. He was a profound and original thinker, a man of wide and varied reading, and gifted with a most retentive memory. His sermons were always carefully elaborated and delivered extemporaneously with power often rising to eloquence. His thoughts came glowing from the intellectual forge, enriched with many gems from the wealth of his mental stores and cultivated imagination. He was thoroughly alive to the material as well as the spiritual interests of the people at large, and kept in touch with the progressive movements of the age, and especially everything that tended to the improvement and elevation of the race. Although strict in his ideas of religious duty, he was very tolerant in his relations with those who differed from him in matters of faith and church government. As a scholar he kept well informed upon all subjects that claimed popular attention along the lines of intellectual progress. A conspicuous feature of his character was his strong conscientious and rigid adherence to the ethical standard of right and duty which he had laid down for himself. In such matters he always 'hewed strictly to the line.' While his mental constitution naturally inclined him to give more attention to the intellectual than the social side in his pastoral relation, he was warm in his friendships, and took a sincere interest in the welfare of his people and of society at large. He has gone to a well deserved re-

ward, but the record of his well spent life will remain as a benison to those who knew him."—Faribault "Republican," March 22, 1899.

The following is a resume of the remarks made by Judge Buckham, of the district court, at the services attending the unveiling of the memorial window:

"Judge Buckham spoke of the early life of Mr. Gale, of his English origin, of his education, which was good but not received in the higher institutions of learning, and of his coming to Ohio and entering upon the ministry at Geneva when about thirty-one years of age. The judge spoke of the rather adverse circumstances under which he entered upon his pastorate in Faribault in 1866, and of the steady growth in the favor and affection of his congregation thenceforward. He sketched briefly his characteristics, his erudition, his disciplined mind, his sermons being all delivered without notes, his social traits in which genuine geniality of disposition and a vein of humor were developed. He grew upon one with acquaintance. He would have occupied a more prominent field but for his innate modesty and contentment with a small parish. The speaker had heard most of the great preachers of the day, and he could think of scarcely any one whose sermons rivalled those of Mr. Gale. He had heard others express the same opinion. He did not, it is true, possess those brilliant traits that characterized Henry Ward Beecher and Dr. Storrs, but he could have filled perfectly the pulpit of Dr. John Hall."

And at the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Congregational church in Faribault, a letter was read from the Rev. E. M. Williams, formerly pastor of the Plymouth Congregational church in Faribault, in part as follows:

"Well do I recall the form and manners and speech of Rev. Edmund Gale. Though considerably my senior, and with some of the peculiar reserve of an Englishman, he treated me with great kindness and fraternal courtesy, and I recognized in him a man of wide reading and intellectual strength. Beneath a somewhat severe exterior there was a keen perception of the humorous and great tenderness of heart. Many a serious talk and hearty laugh did we enjoy together, sometimes in his study, or at his table, or on some ecclesiastical errand. Mrs. Gale, too, as I remember her, was a most earnest, devoted and faithful pastor's wife."

**Donald W. Grant**, retired contractor, capitalist and land owner, now residing in Faribault, was born in Canada, September 9, 1845, of Scottish ancestry. He removed to Ohio with his parents as a lad of fifteen, and in 1865 came to Faribault, engaging shortly afterward in railroad contracting. In this work he

continued on an extensive scale until 1904, doing grading, track-ing and bridging. During this period he also engaged in farm-ing and stock raising, owning at one time over 1,000 acres of land in the vicinity of Faribault. At the present time he retains considerable Rice county property, and owns 10,000 acres of wild land in the United States and Canada. In times past he has owned over 50,000 acres of land, and has assisted in the develop-ment of a considerable portion of it. Mr. Grant is interested in the Security State Bank, of Faribault, and holds stock in many other banks. He was married at Faribault, November 20, 1890, to Margaret Parker, and to this union have been born four chil-dren: Rosamond is a student at Smith College, Northampton, Mass; Donald is a student in the Faribault high school, as is also Margaret; Helen, the youngest, is a pupil in the Faribault Central school. The family residence is at the corner of Third avenue and Sixth street. Mr. Grant is an estimable citizen in every respect, and has done much to develop the natural resources of the country. The parents of Donald W. Grant were William and Catherine (McDonald) Grant, natives of Canada, of Scottish descent. They moved to Ohio in 1860. The father died in 1864, and the mother came to Minnesota and died in Walcott town-ship, this county, in 1887.

**Frank L. Glotzbach**, a leading druggist of Faribault, state senator, and former city mayor, has for many years been promi-nent in the Democratic councils of the state. His influence is wide felt and his reputation is well deserved. He was born in Natrona, Pa., September 11, 1872, and there received his early education. Upon coming to Minnesota in 1887 he entered the employ of J. C. Thro, Mankato druggist, until 1893, when he came to Faribault and worked for M. L. Payant, druggist, until 1898. Since that date he has been in business for himself. After ten years his place on Third street proved too small for his in-creased business, and he took up his present commodious quar-ters on the corner of Central avenue and Third street, where he handles a large line of goods and makes a specialty of carefully compounding prescriptions. The store is modern and up to date in every particular and commands a wide trade from the city and surrounding country. The stock carried in the store is valued at \$8,000. Mr. Glotzbach has filled many positions of public and political trust and honor. He was alderman from the First ward two terms and was elected mayor in 1904. So successfully did he administer the affairs of the city that he was re-elected without opposition in 1905. In 1900 he was delegate for the Democratic national convention at Kansas City. For eight years he was a member of the Democratic state central committee, and from 1904 to 1908 he was chairman of the Democratic congressional



FRANK L. GLOTZBACH





committee from this district. In 1906 he was elected to the state senate for four years, and his advocacy of progressive measures has won wide approval. He is also chairman of the Democratic county committee at the present time. Mr. Glotzbach was married September 6, 1897, at Faribault, to Augusta Piepho, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Piepho, of Faribault. Mrs. Glotzbach was born June 6, 1873. This union has been blessed with three bright children: Gladys Evelyn, born October 1, 1898; Cornelia, born May 19, 1901, and Frank L., Jr., born July 13, 1903. Fraternally, Senator Glotzbach affiliates with the Elks, Eagles, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, the Maccabees, the Modern Brotherhood, the United Workmen and the Woodmen. He is also a prominent member of the Faribault Commercial Club.

John and Mary (Kissler) Glotzbach, parents of Senator Glotzbach, were natives of Saxony, Germany. They came to America in 1854 and located in Natrona, Pa., where the father was superintendent for the Pennsylvania Salt Manufacturing Company. He retired in 1890 and died at Springfield, Minn., January 17, 1892. The mother is still living, making her home in Sleepy Eye, Minn. John Glotzbach enlisted in 1861 in Company I, Seventh Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered in at Pittsburg, serving during the war.

**C. E. Graham** was born in Orange county, New York, March 11, 1873. He is a son of Christopher C. Graham and Sarah Dusenbury Graham, both natives of New York. In 1838 his father moved to Stark county, Ohio, where he lived for five years, then removed to Bluffton, Wells county, Indiana, where he lived until 1865, when he came to Rice county, Minnesota, and settled on a farm in Wells township. Twelve years later he moved to Dundas, Minn., where he lived until 1889, when he died, his wife following two years later. C. E. Graham was only a year old when his parents moved to Ohio. He attended school in Indiana. In 1865 he moved to Rice county, Minnesota, and settled on a farm in Forest township, where he has since resided. He married Sarah Van Emon, daughter of Cyrus and Massah Van Emon. Seven children blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Graham. Eugene C., the eldest, is now a teacher of manual training in Davenport, Iowa; Nellie A. is living at home with her parents; Grace, a teacher in California; Florence and Walter, living near Hettinger, N. D.; Lulu, a nurse in Davenport, Iowa, and Ralph, the youngest son, died in infancy. In religious belief Mr. Graham is a Presbyterian. He is a Republican and a member of the Grand Army. For several years he served as member on the school board.

**John E. Greenville**, a progressive farmer of Rice county, was born in Cannon City, Minn., September 3, 1865. His boyhood was passed on his father's farm, meanwhile receiving his education in the district schools. Afterwards he engaged in farming in Cannon City township, purchasing the home farm in 1891, which he has added to from time to time, now owning 125 acres of highly productive land, on which he still follows general diversified farming. He is an ardent believer in the principles of scientific agriculture, and by adherence to these and hard work has built up one of the model farms of the county. Mr. Greenville has other interests outside of those of his farm, being a stockholder in the Faribault Canning Company and in the Dean Creamery. In politics the Republican party claims his allegiance, and he is now serving as justice of the peace and as a member of his district's school board. All that pertains to the welfare of the community has his support. He is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America, and is also a loyal adherent of the Episcopal church. April 3, 1889, he was married to Abbie Turner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Turner, of Cannon City. The father's decease occurred in 1892. The mother died in 1908. Mrs. Greenville passed away January 6, 1908, leaving four children: Hazel A., Roy E., Helen J., and Charles C., all living at home. Peter and Jane (Mitchell), Greenville, parents of our subject, were natives of Germany and Ireland respectively. They emigrated to this country in 1854, and immediately settled on a fifty-acre farm in Cannon City township, Rice county, Minnesota, having their full share of the perils and hardships incidental to those pioneer days. The father died in 1900, the mother following him to the Great Beyond in 1902.

**Joseph N. Gardner** was born in Platt county, Nebraska, January 25, 1869. He is a son of Babel and Mary (Harthorn) Gardner, his father a native of Indiana and his mother of Ohio. He was a farmer by occupation and moved to Iowa sometime in the fifties, and in about 1863 moved to Nebraska, where he homesteaded 160 acres and farmed until about 1878, when he moved back to Iowa and located in Fredericksburg, Chickasaw county, where he farmed until 1893 and then moved to Volga City. From Volga City he moved to Albany, Iowa, then to Oelwein, Iowa, where he lives in retirement. The mother died in 1884. Mr. Gardner was educated in the public schools of Iowa and Nebraska; after leaving school he worked on the farm until 1896. He took up butter making in the creameries and has continued in that line of work up to the present time. He is now employed as head butter maker of the Farmers' Co-operative Creamery at Nerstrand. He was married in 1899 to Hattie Jolliffe, daughter of Francis and Eliza Jolliffe. The mother was born in New

York state and the father in England. He came to America and located finally near Prairie du Chien, Wis., where he farmed for a good many years and then moved to Iowa, where he still lives. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Gardner: Harold, living at home; Reuben, now deceased; Francis Lowell, died in infancy, and Robert, born December 30, 1908. In his political belief Mr. Gardner is a Republican. He is a member of the Baptist church, and has been a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

**G. C. Gilbertson**, a successful farmer of Webster township, was born there December 10, 1869; is son of Gilbert Christoffer-son and Louisa Mohn, natives of Norway. His father was a blacksmith by trade and came to America in 1866 and located in Webster township, where he farmed and also worked at his trade. In latter years of his life he discontinued blacksmithing and gave all his attention to farming. He died in 1900. The mother still lives with our subject. Mr. Gilbertson received his education in the district schools of Webster township, which was supplemented by one year's schooling at St. Olaf's College, of Northfield, Minn., and two years at St. Ansgar, Iowa. Leaving school he followed the profession of teaching for four years, and then came on the old homestead, where he has carried on farming successfully up to the present time. In 1898 Mr. Gilbertson married Sophia, daughter of Ole and Ragnild (Heggnes) Jacobson, natives of Norway. Mr. and Mrs. Gilbertson have six children, named in the respective order of their birth: Louisa, Ruby, Victor, Bertha, Paul, Luther, who are all at home.

Mr. Gilbertson affiliates with the Prohibition party. In religious faith he adheres to the Norwegian Lutheran church. He is a public spirited citizen, and takes an active part in the local affairs of his community. He has served on the town board and is at the present time clerk of the school board and town assessor. He also took the United States census of 1910, and is a stockholder and treasurer of the Webster Co-operative Dairy Association.

**Oliver Maxfield Henderson**, a well known druggist of Fari-bault, Minn., was born in Montgomery county, Illinois, May 12, 1871. He received the beginnings of his education in the district schools, completing this with a course in Eureka College, Eureka, Ill., after which he taught school for two terms in Illinois. He then took up the art of telegraphy, receiving employment from the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railway and the Chicago and Northwestern at different points along the line in Iowa and South Dakota, until 1893, when he enrolled in the Northwestern University School of Pharmacy, being graduated in 1894. Mr. Henderson then came to Minneapolis, where he clerked in a

drug store until his removal to Faribault in October, 1896, immediately entering upon his duties as prescription clerk for J. B. Wheeler. He remained in this capacity three years and then bought out his employer, conducting the business as sole proprietor and owner ever since. His drug store is known as one of the best equipped and modern in this section of the state, carrying a full line of the usual accessories. In politics, the Republican party claims him as a member, and though he has never aspired to public office, he has always taken an active interest in the welfare of the community. Numerous fraternal organizations count him a valued member, the Masonic order, being past master of Faribault Lodge, No. 9; the Royal Arch Chapter; Knights Templar; the Independent Order of Odd Fellows; Modern Samaritans; E. F. U.; and the K. O. T. M., in which he has served more than ten years as record keeper. He is also identified with the Commercial Club. June 7, 1904, at Faribault, he was married to Minnie M. Thompson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Thompson, of Faribault. They have two children: Lee Oliver, born May 19, 1905, and Clyde Elmer, born June 30, 1908. The family residence is located at 302 Fourth avenue, South. Mr. and Mrs. Henderson attend the services of the Congregational church. David Benson and Ellen Petefish (Maxfield) Henderson, parents of our subject, were natives of Illinois, and his grandparents were born in Virginia. The mother deceased January 25, 1909.

**Ralph R. Hutchinson** is a leading dentist at Faribault, Minn. He is a native of Rice county, and was born in Bridgewater township, March 15, 1874, and is the fourth of a family of five children born to Robert R. and Susan (Patterson) Hutchinson, who were married January 24, 1866, at St. Paul, Minn. Of their other children Arthur E., the eldest, is a civil engineer at Faribault; Burt M. is a bookkeeper at the Chase State Bank at Faribault; Olive I. is married to Dr. M. O. Nelson, a dentist at St. Paul, Minn., and Ella B., the youngest, is deceased. The father was born at Montreal, January 27, 1839, to John and Isabella Hutchinson. He acquired his education in Montreal and in the public schools at Buffalo, N. Y. In the spring of 1858 he settled in Bridgewater township, Rice county, Minnesota, where he bought a partly improved quarter section of land, erected a house and other buildings and carried on general farming until 1862. He then enlisted as a private in Company C, Sixth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and entered the Union Army as first sergeant and rose to the rank of second lieutenant, then first lieutenant, and on August 19, 1865, was mustered out at Fort Snelling as captain of his company. Returning to Bridge-



water, he resumed farming on an eighty-acre farm which he bought, but soon afterwards moved to Dundas and engaged in general merchandising. He settled at Faribault in 1889, and for a time was engaged in the real estate business. He also served as deputy county treasurer, and was bookkeeper for the Cereal Milling Company some four years, and in 1902 was elected register of deeds for Rice county and filled that office till January 1, 1909. He also served as treasurer of the school board and as city assessor. He is a member of Michael Cook Post, No. 123, G. A. R., at Faribault, and with his wife is affiliated with the Congregational church. They have a pleasant home at No. 520 West Second street, Faribault. Ralph R. acquired his preliminary education in the public school at Faribault. He supplemented this with a course of study at the Northwestern College of Dental Surgery, of Chicago, where he was graduated in April, 1898, and since that time has been engaged in active practice at Faribault, where he has attained a leading place in his profession and established a large and lucrative practice.

Dr. Hutchinson is a Republican in political sentiment and in religious belief is a Congregationalist. He is active in fraternal organizations, being identified with the Masonic order, Knights of Pythias, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and Unity Lodge, No. 45, A. O. U. W. He is also a member of the Faribault Commercial Club. Elected alderman from the Third ward (Republican) April, 1909, for two years. Married to Ella M. Hawk, June 11, 1910.

**Dan Hagan**, a successful business man of Northfield, is a native of Columbia county, Wisconsin, born May 22, 1869. His parents, John and Susanna Hagan, both natives of Ireland, on coming to America, settled at Portage, Wis., where the father worked at his trade as a millwright, and whence he later moved with his family to near Paynette, in Columbia county, where he and the mother passed the remainder of their lives. The son acquired his education in the public schools in Columbia county, and after leaving school engaged in farming there. Removing thence to Austin, Minn., he there spent some three years as proprietor of a stud of imported French Percheron breeding stallions, after which he was variously employed at different places. He finally settled on a farm near Dundas, where he spent three years, and whence he moved to Northfield and established a livery business, to which he has since devoted his attention. Bringing to his business the benefit of his varied experience, Mr. Hagan has made it eminently successful. He keeps in his stables from fifteen to twenty-five good horses and has a full supply of fine carriages and all the necessary equipment of a first-class, up-to-date livery establishment, reported to be one of the best

in the country. Mr. Hagan has never held or sought public office, but is identified with the Republican party. In religious belief he is a Catholic. He is a member of Northfield Lodge, No. 1796, of the F. O. E., and in all that relates to the welfare and betterment of social and community conditions shows a commendable interest. In 1895 Mr. Hagan married Ella Britzes, of Fairmont, Minn., where the father was a clergyman of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. and Mrs. Hagan have two children, Clifford and Lillian, pupils of the Northfield public schools.

**Willis W. Hassan** is a native of Renville county, Minnesota, and was born April 30, 1872, to Alden and Sarah (Platt) Hassan. His father, a native of Canada, came to Goodhue county, Minnesota, when a boy, and for a time worked for different farmers, and later followed the same occupation in Rice county. Thence he went to Renville county in 1871 and settled on a tract of land; but the loss of his crops through the grasshopper plague led him to abandon it in 1874, returning to Rice county. In 1876 he established himself in the jewelry business at Rosemont, and in 1877 took up his residence at Dundas and opened a general merchandise store. Willis W. acquired his preliminary education in the public schools, then spent four years in the livery business at Dundas, after which he supplanted his early training by a course of study at a Minneapolis business college preparatory to engaging in general mercantile business. Since October 1, 1907, Mr. Hassan has been postmaster at Dundas under appointment of President Roosevelt.

He is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. In 1900 Mr. Hassan married Rosa, daughter of James and Louise (Strange) Ritchey, who were early settlers of Rice county. The father was a farmer and a veteran of the Civil War. Mr. and Mrs. Hassan have two bright children, named respectively, S. Louise and Bernard Willis.

**Henry B. Hamre**, for many years identified with the drug business of Northfield, was born in Goodhue county, Minnesota, October 15, 1857, son of John and Emily (Norland) Hamre, natives of Norway, who emigrated to America in the early days, and were married in Minnesota. The father pre-empted a farm in Goodhue county, where they settled and engaged in farming for the remainder of their lives. They were the parents of ten children: Mrs. Cohner, of Chicago; Mrs. C. E. Bjorge, of Lake Park, Minn.; Henry B., of Northfield, the subject of this sketch; A. M. and John, of Granite Falls, Minn.; Ole Hamre, who resides on the old homestead in Goodhue county; Mrs. Margaret Thoreson, of Goodhue county; Mrs. Emma Severson, of Velva, N. D.; and two children who are dead. The parents are also

dead. Henry B. received his education in the public schools, and in 1881 he came to Northfield and became a clerk in the drug store of Blackman and Kelly, remaining with them in the capacity of clerk until in 1902, when he purchased an interest, and in May, 1909, he bought the remaining interest, thus becoming sole owner of the store in which he had been a faithful employe for so many years. His store is up to date in every respect, and a full and complete stock of everything in the line of drugs and sundries connected with a store of that kind is kept, and make a specialty of compounding prescriptions. Mr. Hamre was married October 25, 1893, to Bertha M. Gilbertson, a native of Norway, from which country she was brought to America by her parents at the age of three years. They settled on a farm in Rice county, where the father died, but the mother is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Hamre are prominent members of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Northfield.

**John Hutchinson**, an enterprising business man of Faribault, Minn., is a native of Montreal, Canada. He was born February 1, 1840, to John and Isabella (Patterson) Hutchinson, natives of Ireland and Scotland, respectively. On coming to this country they settled in Canada. The father was a contractor and builder, and removing with his family to Buffalo, N. Y., in the fall of 1851, lived there till 1859. He then settled on a farm in Bridge-water township, Rice county, Minnesota. Both the father and mother died there, the former in 1887 and the latter in 1881.

John acquired his education in private schools in Montreal and public schools of Buffalo, N. Y., and grew up in his father's home, helping on the farm after settling in Minnesota. In 1862 he enlisted and entered the service as a private in Company C, Sixth regiment, Minnesota volunteer infantry, and rose to the rank of second lieutenant. He served in two campaigns against the Indians at the time of the uprising and massacre, first in the fall of 1862 and again in the summer of 1863, taking part in the battles of Birch Cooley, Wood Lake and others. The Indians captured, numbering nearly a thousand, were under charge of Corporals McIntire, Miller and Hutchinson. Three hundred and eighty-five were sentenced to be hung and the sentence was carried out in the cases of thirty-nine, but as to the others it was commuted to a term of imprisonment. His regiment was ordered to the South in July of 1864 and he served there, participating in the capture of Forts Blakely and Spanish Fort, the defenses of Mobile, Ala., and other engagements until the close of the war, and was honorably discharged and mustered out of the service August 18, 1865. After his return home he engaged in farming for a time, but later turned his attention to mercantile business and saw-milling, and since March, 1883, has been engaged in the

furniture business. For nearly twenty years he was associated with Mr. A. W. Stockton. Mr. Stockton died May 3, 1902. March 8, 1904, our subject purchased the interest of the heirs in the business, and in 1904 incorporated the present Faribault Furniture Company; he is also president of the Faribault Roller Mill Company, and vice-president of the Faribault Loan and Insurance Company.

Mr. Hutchinson has filled numerous official positions, and always with credit and to the satisfaction of the community. He is a Republican in politics, and as long ago as 1872 was sent to the state legislature. He has served on the local school board, and for three years was president of the board of trade. In religious faith he is affiliated with the Congregational church. In 1866 Mr. Hutchinson married Lucy Drought, who died in 1875, leaving two children, viz.: Lu Ella, who is married to Charles L. Bishop, and May Bell, who makes her home with her father. In 1879 Mr. Hutchinson married Eunice E. Spicer, who died in 1898, leaving one son, Thomas C., who makes his home with his father. In 1902 Mr. Hutchinson married Anna G. Brown, and they have one child, Henry R.

**Oscar M. Harstad** was born in Eskog, Norway, May 28, 1877, and is the next to the youngest child of a family of ten children born to Ole and Mary Harstad, who came from Norway, their native land, in 1880 and settled at Sioux City, Iowa, where the father worked as a mechanic till his decease, November 17, 1888. The mother, who still survives, lives with her children. The other children of this family are Ole O., Henry O., Edwin O., Mary M., Charles O., Mathilda M., Oliver, Alma and Sophia.

Oscar M. attended the public schools in Sioux City, and beginning as a cash boy when he was eleven years old, worked up to the position of shipping clerk in the mercantile house of Messrs. Martin & Co. When he was twenty-one years old, keeping up the work of his position, he also pursued a course of study in the commercial department of the Sioux City high school, graduating in 1900, after which he was made a clerk and later promoted to the position of buyer of linens and domestic fabrics. After eighteen years of faithful service in this house he, on May 16, 1908, resigned his position, and on June 20 following opened at Faribault the up-to-date dry goods house of which he has since been the popular proprietor. Mr. Harstad is a thorough business man and adheres to a fixed policy of carrying only first-class goods that will sell on their merit, a policy the wisdom of which is shown by the success that has attended him since settling in Faribault. Mr. Harstad has never sought or desired any office. He is a Republican in political belief, and in his religious convictions adhered to the faith of the Lutheran church. He is an



active member of the Commercial Club of Faribault. Mr. and Mrs. Harstad have three children, named respectively Mildred Eldora, Helen Margarite and Frances Dorothy.

**William H. Holden**, the well-known musician of Faribault, Minn., is a native of the village of Youngstown, Niagara county, N. Y., his date of birth being May 8, 1844. Here he acquired his education in the public schools and passed his boyhood, enlisting at the age of eighteen, August, 1862; he enlisted in Company E, 129 New York Infantry, as chief musician. The name of the company was later changed to the Eighth New York Artillery. He served till May, 1865, when they were dismissed from the service of the United States at Bailey Cross Roads, Va., and later from the state service at Rochester, N. Y. He then removed to Youngstown and clerked in a general store one year, going west in 1867 and following the cooperage trade at Appleton, Wis., remaining here one year. Then practiced his trade in various western towns till 1870, when he moved to Owatonna, Steele county, Minn., going to Rochester, Minn., one year afterwards, and then back to Owatonna, in 1874, where the cooperage business continued to engage his attention for the next fifteen years. He had given much time to music ever since his army days, becoming recognized as an artist of very decided ability, and in 1889 he was offered the position of instructor of music in the school for the blind at Faribault, which he has filled with much credit to himself and the institution ever since. He has entire charge of the orchestra department. Mr. Holden is a staunch adherent of the Republican party, and is at present serving his second term as alderman of the Fourth ward of Faribault. He is also affiliated with post No. 123 of the G. A. R., in which he has served as commander, and the American Order of Union Workmen. December 28, 1869, he united in marriage with Rachel Turner of Youngstown, N. Y., who died in 1882, leaving three children, viz: John, who died in 1898; Mabel, now of Sidney, Mont., and Grace, of Waterville, Minn. He was married a second time, in June 1899, to Margaret Turner, a half-sister of his first wife. Her decease occurred December 2, 1908. Joseph and Susan (Miller) Holden, parents of our subject, were natives of New Hampshire, where the father followed farming till his removal to Youngstown, N. Y., then taking up the cooperage industry till his death in 1868, his wife preceding him by two years.

**Joseph D. Hatfield**, a native of Indiana, was born, February 2, 1849, removing with his parents, at the age of eleven years, to Forest township, Rice county, Minnesota, where he passed the remainder of his boyhood on his father's farm, and completed his education in the district schools, after which he



assisted his father in running the farm till twenty-two years of age, when he bought sixty acres of land and engaged in farming on his own account. Later he sold out and bought a 200-acre tract, the cultivation of which claimed his attention for some time. Then disposed of forty acres, and retained 160 acres of fine land on which he followed general diversified farming, stock raising, and dairying with marked success till 1904, when he rented his quarter section, which he had developed into one of the finest farms in the county, to his son, and moved to Faribault, where he has lived retired ever since. Mr. Hatfield is a believer in the principles of the Republican party, and has always taken an active interest in the affairs of the community, having served on the school board of his district, as clerk and treasurer, for many years. In 1890, he helped take the United States census. The Congregational Church claims him as a member. He was united in marriage, October 9, 1873, with Margaret Campbell, a school teacher, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Campbell. They have four children, George G., Joseph E., who runs the old farm, Grace I., who is married to Loren Johnson, of Forbes, N. D., and Olive R., a scholar in the Faribault high school, who lives at home with her parents in their handsome residence at 810 West First street North. Mr. Hatfield is a son of Robert and Nancy (Stewart) Hatfield, natives of Ohio, who migrated to Minnesota in 1860, where they purchased 240 acres of wild land, which they broke and cleared with the crude instruments of those pioneer times, and here followed general diversified farming till their removal to Northfield, where the father died, September, 1902, the mother having preceded him by over twenty-nine years. John Campbell, father of Mrs. Hatfield, died in Missouri, in 1852. Three years later, the mother with true pioneer spirit, came to Minnesota and pre-empted a quarter section in the township of Wells, near Faribault, soon afterward coming to Faribault, where she lived till her decease in August, 1881.

**Albert M. Hatch**, is a native of Faribault, Rice county, Minnesota, and was born July 12, 1868, to A. H. and Mary Jane (Ray) Hatch, natives of Vermont and Massachusetts, respectively, who settled at Faribault in the early sixties and where the father followed his occupation as a contractor till his death, which occurred December 12, 1908. He served as alderman and city treasurer. The mother died in 1874. Albert M. supplemented his preliminary education in the public schools with a course of study at Shattuck school, where he was graduated in 1888. He then worked some eight or nine years clerking and bookkeeping, and in June, 1897, as a partner with A. L. Carufel, bought the business to which he has since devoted himself,

In 1899 Mr. Hatch purchased his partner's interest in the business and has since that time conducted it in his own name. Mr. Hatch carries on an extensive business in everything relating to plumbing, heating, sheet metal work, etc., and maintains an up-to-date establishment, thoroughly equipped to meet the demands of his growing trade. Mr. Hatch is somewhat active in fraternal and benevolent organizations, being identified with the Knights of Pythias, Modern Samaritans, Knights of Macca-bees, and B. P. O. E., and also belongs to the Commercial Club of Faribault. In politics he is a Republican and in religious faith an Episcopalian. On October 13, 1897, A. M. Hatch married Angie E., a daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Ersfeld, natives of Germany, who now live at Walcott, Rice county, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Hatch have two children named, respectively, Nellie M. and Dorothy E.

William A. Hunt, M. D., was born in Northfield, January 2, 1858, where he has since resided. He received his early education in the public schools, and later entered Carleton college, from which he graduated in 1878. He then took up the study of medicine at the University of Michigan, and graduated with honors in 1882, after which he returned to Northfield, and began the practice of his profession. He has won the confidence and respect of the entire community and has always been ready to respond to the call for the relief of suffering. He has taken post-graduate courses at New York and Chicago from time to time, thus adding to his large knowledge and understanding of his profession for the benefit of his patients. He holds membership in the American Medical Association, the Minnesota Medical Society, and the Rice County Medical Society, and is also well known in fraternal circles. He is a Mason of high degree, a member of Osmun Temple of St. Paul, and of the various bodies of that order. He is state treasurer of the Minnesota Homestead Brotherhood of American Yeomen, and also belongs to Northfield Lodge, No. 50, I. O. O. F. In politics he is a Republican and in religion a Congregationalist. He has also found time in his busy life to serve as mayor of the city and as a member of the board of education for the period of ten years, of which he was president eight years of that time. By his wife, Florence M. Bishop, of Hillsdale, Mich., whom he married June 27, 1893, he has three sons: William B., born April 16, 1894; Harold J., born December 16, 1897; and Arthur B., born March 7, 1903. Joseph A. Hunt, father of William, was born in Hawley, Franklin county, Mass., September 22, 1823, and the mother, Mandana L. (Hix) Hunt, at Readsboro, Vt., Dec. 9, 1825. They were married at Readsboro, October 10, 1850, and six years later migrated to the West. They came to Northfield,

Minn., April 1856, and made a pre-emption of 160 acres of land in Northfield township, where they lived and worked for one year, after which they moved to Northfield, and the father engaged in the grocery and meat business, in which he was very successful, and continued to conduct this business for the period of twenty years, when he retired. Mr. Hunt, Sr., was a very public-spirited and influential citizen, and took a great interest in all public improvements, and especially in the progress of education. He was a member of the first board of supervisors of the township, and held many minor offices in the city. There were three children in the Hunt home: Hiram A., of Seattle; William, the subject of this sketch, and Olive, who died in infancy. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge, and belonged to the Congregational Church. He died March 20, 1909, and the mother passed away eight years before, December 8, 1901.

**Henry B. Hill**, state bank examiner, and scion of an old New York family, is one of the well-known residents of Faribault. He was born in Rome, N. Y., February 28, 1857, and was reared in that city, receiving his early education in the public schools. His preparatory course was taken in the Willison seminary, at East Hampton, Mass., and in 1876 he entered Cornell university with the class of 1880, remaining there until 1879. In 1885 he received his degree of LL. B. from the University of Michigan, and was at once admitted to the bar, and for five years practiced his profession at Faribault. In June, 1900, he became chief clerk of the state school for the deaf at Faribault, and retained this position until 1902, when he accepted a situation as secretary of the Faribault Furniture Company. In 1906 he was appointed deputy state bank examiner in the department of the public examiner, and in 1909 he was promoted to his present position. His work in this capacity has been greatly facilitated by the fact that he received considerable banking experience under the tuition of his father in his native state. Mr. Hill is descended from patriotic American ancestry, being a charter member of the Minnesota Society of the Colonial Wars. He belongs to the Minnesota Chapter, Sons of the Revolution, and is also a member of the Elks. A Democrat in politics, he has served two terms as a member of the Democratic state central committee. Mr. Hill was married, October 31, 1895, at Faribault by the Rt. Rev. Henry B. Whipple, to Hortense Virginia Daniels, born at Eden Prairie, Minn., September 25, 1863, daughter of Dr. J. W. and Hortense (Beardsley) Daniels, natives of New Hampshire and New Jersey, respectively. To Mr. and Mrs. Hill have been born two children: Susan H., born October 12, 1899, and died April 21, 1905; Jared D., born July 31, 1902. The family home is a comfortable residence at the corner of First

avenue and Sixth street. The parents of Henry B. Hill were Zaccheus and Susan L. (Whipple) Hill, the former born April 20, 1818, and the latter, a sister of the late Rt. Rev. Henry B. Whipple, at Adams, N. Y., June 3, 1826. Zaccheus Hill was for many years a banker in Rome, N. Y., and also conducted a bank at Clinton, N. Y. He died there December 11, 1877. His wife came to Faribault in 1879, and died November 28, 1894. Dr. J. W. Daniels, father of Mrs. Hill, served as surgeon in the Second Minnesota cavalry, with the rank of major. At the close of the war, in 1865, he was appointed Indian agent. In 1873 until 1887 he was Indian inspector under the United States Government. In 1882 he came to Faribault, living here until 1900, when he moved to Los Angeles, for health, and there died, May 3, 1904. His first wife died November 5, 1870, at St. Peter, Minn. Dr. Daniels was for many years a trustee of St. Mary's Hall.

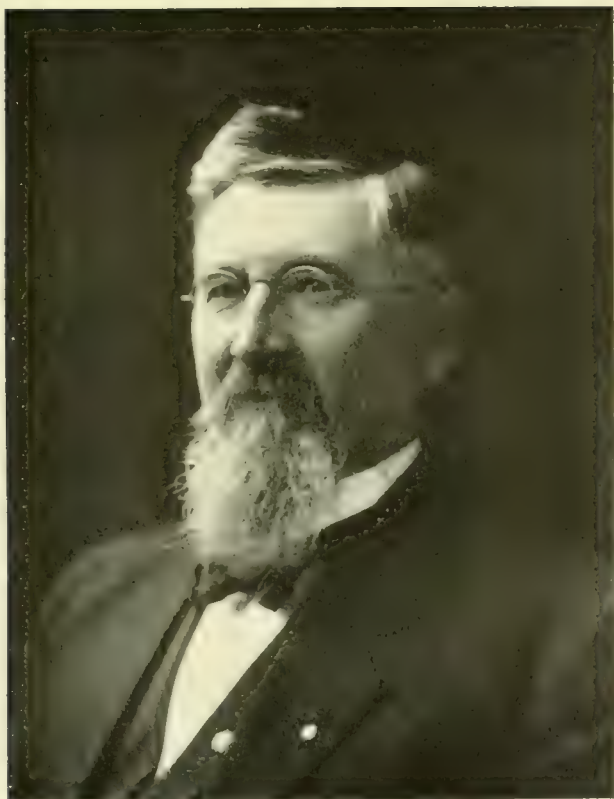
**Ansel Loray Hill.** It is necessary to the growth of a pioneer community that with the farmers who come to break the land and raise foodstuffs should also come the men who, with visions of future prosperity, are willing to give their capital, their time and their energies to the upbuilding of the commercial and industrial activity of the point that has been selected as a future business center. Each of these men must have admirable forethought and sound judgment, with a faith in his community that no discouragements can daunt. Coupled with this he must have a command of his trade and vocation, as well as the ability to dispose of his product. Above all, he must be a man of such undoubted honor and honesty, that no one can doubt the merit of his output. In Ansel Loray Hill, now deceased, Faribault, both as a hamlet, as a village, and as a city, possessed just such a man. In Williamsburg, Hampshire county, Massachusetts, where the descendants of the Puritans still walk in the stern faith and practice of their forefathers, A. L. Hill first saw the light of day, April 2, 1830. His education was such as the district schools of his neighborhood afforded. Being of a mechanical trend of mind, he early decided to learn the machinist's trade. Accordingly, while still in his middle teens he left the parental roof, and in the neighboring village of Haydenville, Mass., served his apprenticeship. In 1848, at eighteen years of age, he came West to Fond du Lac, Wis., and in spite of his youth started what was known as the Pioneer Machine Shop. This he conducted until 1852. The California gold craze, started in 1849, was then at its height, and Mr. Hill followed the rush to the Golden Gate state, remaining until 1854, when he returned to Fond du Lac and engaged in the lumbering business for one year. From 1855 dates his residence in Faribault. In that year he came to this city and started the A. J. Hill Furniture



Factory, at that time located on the flat near the river, on Willow street, between Second and Third. Conditions at first were rather primitive in this factory. It utilized a blind horse for power, and a circular saw and a turning lathe was all the machinery in use. One man only was at first employed. There was serious trouble in procuring lumber to build the mill, as lumber was so scarce that men stood by the saw and snatched each board as it was cut. The first building was 20x30 feet, one and one-half stories high. From this humble beginning, the business continued to grow. A few years later the business was removed to a new building at the corner of Willow and Third streets. In this building he installed a twenty-horsepower engine and employed from twenty to twenty-five men. The fame of the Hill furniture spread abroad and soon the retail and wholesale business of the establishment covered the central and northwestern state. In 1872 the enterprise received a slight setback, the entire plant being destroyed by fire. It was at once rebuilt and the business continued to grow. On December 30, 1889, this building was also destroyed, entailing a loss of about \$39,000.00. Undaunted by this disaster, Mr. Hill built the brick factory which is still standing. He also was the owner of the Hill Block and Union Block on Central avenue, which also remain to commemorate his interest in the business activities of the city. During Mr. Hill's long business career, he combined the undertaking profession with his furniture enterprise. He attended the Episcopal Church and contributed to its support, and was a Republican in politics. His death, February 21, 1897, was deeply mourned throughout the city and Rice county, who remember him as a leader in the progress of Faribault, and a man whose character, commercial and private was beyond reproach. Mr. Hill was first married in 1860, to Betsey Miller, of Springfield, Mass., who died in Faribault, in 1868. He was married, November 28, 1872, to Cornelia Jane Gifford, born in Essex county, New York, on the shores of Lake Champlain, May 7, 1848, daughter of Ezra D. and Lydia A. (Haskin) Gifford, both natives of New York state. Ezra D. Gifford, who originally ran a line of boats on Lake Champlain, came to Faribault in 1856 and opened the National Hotel. Later he engaged in farming in this state, dying March 28, 1877. In the family were a son and a daughter, besides Mrs. Hill. Henry C. Gifford lives in Faribault, with Mrs. Hill, and Mrs. William Mee is also a resident of this city. Mrs. Lydia A. (Haskin) Gifford died June 4, 1900.

**Lewis M. Hollister**, of Morristown, Minn., was born in Cataugus county, New York, January 22, 1849, to Edwin and Lovina (Slade) Hollister. The father, born February 5, 1822, was the first male child born in Mansfield, N. Y. He was a tan-





L. M. HOLLISTER



ner by trade. He died March 7, 1852. His widow survived him and passed away in 1870 in New York state. They had three children. Our subject's grandparents, Samuel L. and Sibyl (Norton) Hollister, were natives of Seneca county, New York, and Goshen, Conn., respectively, the former born in 1787. He was a farmer by occupation; they had a family of ten children, and his death occurred June 29, 1849, at Mansfield, N. Y. His widow, born in 1790, passed away December 31, 1884. They were both honored members of the Presbyterian church and active in religious and benevolent work. Josiah Hollister, our subject's great-grandfather, served in the Revolutionary War, and, being captured by the British, was held a prisoner in Canada two and a half years. After the death of our subject's father, he being then three years old, he lived with an uncle on a farm, and attended the district schools, and when twelve years old began life for himself. Young Hollister came West, reaching Faribault, Minn., December 31, 1867. He attended school a part of the time for two years, and then moved to the village of Warsaw and bought a small improved farm, which he tilled a few years. Thence he moved onto a farm in Morristown township, which he, a little later, traded for his present quarter section. Under his management this has been finely improved, and supplied with modern conveniences and appliances, and converted into a model place, stocked with high grade cattle and Poland-China swine, and which is widely known as the Walrath Stock and Dairy Farm. Mr. Hollister lived on this farm, which adjoins the village of Morristown, till 1907, when he moved into the village. While on the farm he served as a member and part of the time as chairman of the town board, also as town and school treasurer and also treasurer of the Morristown Co-operative Creamery. He is a Republican in politics and has served as delegate to the state and congressional conventions, and in 1896 was elected to the state legislature. Mr. Hollister is now (1910) vice-president of the Morristown State Bank, vice-president of the Walcott Fire and Lightning Insurance Company, agent for cyclone insurance and treasurer of the creamery. He became a Free Mason in 1878, and is now Master of Cannon River Lodge, No. 52, Morristown, and a member of the Minnesota Masonic Veterans' Association. Both he and his wife are loyal members of the Congregational Church of Morristown, which he has served as trustee more than twenty years, and for two years past as clerk. Mr. Hollister has been twice married, his first wife being Martha, nee Wood. They had two children, viz.: William L., who was accidentally killed while skating, and Frances now married to Mr. Fred Osterhaut, and living in Aiken, Minn. His present wife was formerly Mrs. Emma Bryan. She

has a son by her former marriage, named Ralph Bryan, now living at Bellfield, N. D. Mr. and Mrs. Hollister have one child, Kenneth L., a bright and promising boy of six years.

**Frederick R. Huxley, M. D.**, was born in Winona, Minn., and there obtained his boyhood education, afterward entering the University of Minnesota, receiving first his degree of B. A. and in 1900 his degree of M. D. Since graduation he has engaged in the practice of his profession at Faribault. While at college Dr. Huxley was a member of the Phi Delta Theta, the Sigma Xi, the Theta Nu Epsilon, and the Nu Sigma Nu, and at the present time he affiliates with the national, state and county medical societies as well as with the Masonic order. He is an independent voter, is now serving his seventh year as health officer of the city, and has served two years as assistant physician at the State School for the Feeble-Minded. In 1907 he took a trip to Europe and made a special study of the nose and throat diseases, pursuing his investigations in London and Berlin.

**William Hildebrandt** is a retired farmer of Northfield township, and was born in Germany, July 28, 1845, and came to this country with his parents, Charles, born September 8, 1810, died January 1, 1892, and Frederika (Kickanap) Hildebrandt, born May 26, 1820, died August 6, 1888, in 1853, and for two years made their home twelve miles west of Chicago, after which they came to Minnesota and pre-empted eighty acres of land in Holden township, near the Rice county line. Here they spent their lives, carrying on farming. In the family were eight children: William, of Northfield, is the subject of this sketch; Mrs. Jacob Kaiser, of Faribault; Henry, of Nerstrand, Rice county; Mrs. H. Roth, of Faribault (deceased); Charles, of Goodhue county; Mrs. John Von Wald, Ferdinand, and John, also of Goodhue county. William received his education in the common schools of his neighborhood, and worked with his father on the farm, remaining at home until his marriage, when he bought a farm in Holden township, where he remained a few years, and subsequently sold and purchased a farm in Northfield township, Rice county, where he carried on general farming until March, 1909, when he decided to retire, and consequently sold his farm to his sons and moved to Northfield, purchasing a comfortable home, and now resides, enjoying the peace and prosperity he has attained through hard work and thrift. By his wife, Louisa Koester, whom he married June 18, 1868, he has had four children: Sarah, born May 16, 1869, and died June 27, 1876; Benjamin C., born May 26, 1872, lives on a farm in section 21, Northfield township, and was married May 12, 1896, to Sarah Vearkant, of Nerstrand, and they have four children: Edna born May 6, 1897; Grant, born February 18, 1899; Violet, born April 24, 1905, and Maylan, born Feb-

ruary 28, 1908. Frederick A. was born December 20, 1876, and died August 1, 1899. Herbert Walter was born December 27, 1884, married Sarah Ehlers in February, 1909, and lives on the old homestead in section 20, Northfield township, which he purchased. Mrs. Hildebrandt's parents were Fred and Maria (Endabrock) Koester, natives of Germany. The father was born October 16, 1814, and the mother October 26, 1818. They were married in Germany and emigrated to this country in the early days, arriving in Indiana in 1848, where they remained until 1868, after which they came to Minnesota, and settled in Northfield township. The father died October 13, 1893, but the mother is still living. They had a family of eight children: Mrs. William Hildebrandt, who is the wife of the subject of this sketch; Mrs. August Ebel, of Faribault; Fred (deceased); Henry, of Faribault; John, William and Frank, of Northfield township, and Mrs. William Ebel, also of Northfield. Mr. Hildebrandt is a Republican, and served as chairman of the board of supervisors three years, and for the period of four years as supervisor. He was one of the directors of the school district of his immediate neighborhood for one year. The family belongs to the German Methodist Episcopal church of Prairie Creek, Northfield township.

**Murrey Headline**, who has always lived in Warsaw township, Rice county, Minn., was born at the family home, September 5, 1885, to C. A. and Carrie (Gilman) Headline, the former a native of Rice county, and the latter of Steele county, Minnesota. The father is a farmer and surveyor, but retired from farming in the spring of 1909. Murrey acquired a common school education in the district schools and grew up as a farmer boy. In April, 1909, he began on his own account, on a leased farm of 160 acres in Warsaw township, where he gives his attention to general farming and dairying with success. He is a man well thought of in the community, who looks carefully after his affairs and seeks to do his duty as a good citizen. He is independent in his political views, and casts his ballot for the candidate whom he deems best fitted for the office sought, regardless of party affiliations. In religious faith he is a Congregationalist. Mr. Headline is married and has one child, Hazel A.

**W. H. Harkins** was born in Walcott township, Rice county, Minn., January 14, 1862, son of Samuel and Orley (Thurston) Harkins, who were natives of Pennsylvania. Mr. Harkins' occupation was that of a farmer. In 1856 he came West and located in Walcott township, where he pre-empted 160 acres, and carried on general farming. He later acquired 240 acres in Rice county, and 320 acres in Lyon county, making a total of 720 acres. He made his home on his farm in Walcott, remaining there until his death, in 1890. Mrs. Harkins is still living and makes her home



in Faribault. Mr. W. H. Harkins received his education in district school No. 38, and also attended Pillsbury academy three months in the year 1882. After leaving school he worked on his father's farm, and in 1901 bought 160 acres in Walcott, where he does general farming, and also makes a specialty of raising short horn cattle. He was married February 22, 1894, to Sarah Morris, a daughter of John and Elizabeth Morris. They were natives of Canada, but came to Minnesota in 1885. Mr. Morris worked on a farm in Walcott and also did construction work for Grant Bros., and followed in this line of work up to the time of his death, in 1889. Mrs. Morris died some six months after the death of her husband. There were seven girls and three boys in the family, five girls now living and three boys. Mr. Harkins is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and also of the Knights of Pythias. In his political views he is a Republican. He was elected town clerk in 1892 and served until 1894; was elected treasurer in 1894 and served until 1896; was elected assessor in 1896 and served until 1898. He was elected on the board of supervisors in 1900, serving in that capacity until 1902, when he was chosen as the town chairman, in which capacity he still serves. In 1900 he took the United States census in the town of Walcott. He is a member and also clerk of the school board, a position which he has held for the past fifteen years.

**M. H. Hoover**, a thrifty and enterprising farmer of Bridgewater township, was born in Pennsylvania, May 7, 1850, son of Jounas and Hetty (Zimmerman) Hoover, farmers and natives of Pennsylvania. The parents came to Minnesota in 1855, locating in Cannon City township, Rice county, where they bought 160 acres of land, on which they carried on general and diversified farming until the father's death, which occurred in 1868. The mother died in 1898. The subject of this sketch attained his education in the district schools of Cannon City township. Leaving school, he worked on a farm for some time. In 1871 he bought a farm in Bridgewater township, where he remained until 1889. He then sold this farm and bought 120 acres in section 29, Bridgewater, which he has improved, carrying on general farming and dairy business up to the present time. Mr. Hoover was married in 1872 to Katherine, daughter of Richard and Katherine Gallagher, father native of Dublin, Ireland; mother native of Glasgow, Scotland. They came to America in the early days and located in Canada; thence came to Minnesota in 1865, locating in the vicinity of Dundas, where the father carried on farming until his death, in 1874; the mother died in 1891. Mr. and Mrs. Hoover have two children, Everett, who farms in Bridgewater township, and Ella J., who is a teacher. Mr. Hoover is a Republican, and

in religious faith he adheres to the Methodist Episcopal church. He has served a number of years on the school board.

**Edward Hoover**, son of Christian Hoover, native of Pennsylvania, was born in Pennsylvania, February 24, 1848. In 1865 our subject came to Minnesota with his parents, who bought a farm in section 8, Cannon City township, Rice county, where they farmed for three years. The mother died in 1868, and the father sold the farm and returned to Pennsylvania, where he died May 20, 1908. Edward attended school in Pennsylvania and in Cannon City, Minn. Leaving school, he worked on a farm, and then in 1867 bought 120 acres in section 10, Cannon City township, where he still lives as a retired farmer, having rented the farm. In 1866 Mr. Hoover married Nancy L., daughter of John and Jane Caldwell, of Pennsylvania, who in the early days came to Minnesota and located in Faribault. They have two children: C. L., and Lydia, now Mrs. Henry Pipes, who is renting his father's farm. Mr. Hoover is a public spirited citizen well appreciated in his community, has served on the school board for twenty-five years, and has served on the town board for five years, which office he still holds. He is interested financially in the Dean Creamery. He is Democratic in his political belief, and in religion he is affiliated with the Congregational church.

**O. N. Hegnes** was born in Norway January 8, 1862, a son of Nels and Margaret (Hendrikson) Hegnes. Both parents were natives of Norway, and the father was a common laborer up to the time of his death in 1872; the mother came to America in 1887 and lived with her son up to the time of her death in 1907. Mr. Hegnes was educated in the district schools of Norway. After leaving school he worked out until 1881, when he came to this country and located in Nerstrand, where he worked out. In 1886 he entered the grain business for himself and followed it until 1891, when he took the management of the Big Diamond Milling Company, the successor of the Sheffield Milling Company, which business he still follows. He was married in 1898 to Amanda Christofherson, a daughter of John and Anna (Olson) Christofherson, natives of Norway. The father was a laborer who came to America in 1871 and located in Chicago. He remained there until 1874 and then moved to Eau Claire, Wis., where he still lives. One child was born to Mr. and Mrs. Hegnes, Rosa Viola, who lives at Nerstrand. Mrs. Hegnes died September 28, 1909. Mr. Hegnes is a member of the Lutheran church. In politics he is a Republican. He has been clerk of the village since 1898. He is a stockholder in the Farmers' State Bank.

**C. B. Hirdler**, one of the old residents of Forest township, Rice county, was born in Germany, and there married Maria Mime. They came to America in 1862 and located first in New

York, where they remained for nine months, then came to Milwaukee, but remained there but a short time, subsequently going to Michigan, where they lived for twelve years. Mr. Hirdler was a shoemaker by trade, but also preached the Gospel. After leaving Michigan they came to Minnesota and settled in Jackson county for one winter, then moved to Rice county, and located in Forest township, where he has farmed and practiced medicine up to the present time. His wife died in 1909.

**Aug. Hirdler** was born in Schlazing, Germany, February 22, 1852, to C. B. and Maria (Mime) Hirdler, and came to America when ten years of age. He attended the public schools in Michigan, and after leaving school worked in a saw mill for nine seasons; then came to Minnesota. Subsequently he farmed in Jackson county for a while and is still in that business in Forest township, in Rice county. In 1881 Mr. Hirdler was married to Katherine Alterman, and four children were born to them: Ida, Clara J., Melvin and Alma. He was again married in 1892 to Rosa Butler. They had one child, Rosa, who died in infancy. In 1893 his second wife died. He was married a third time in 1893 to Anna Bier and had two children by this union, Walter, now deceased, and Emil, living at home. In political views Mr. Hirdler is an independent voter, and in his religious belief he is an Adventist.

**Charles H. Johnson** is proprietor of one of the leading clothing stores of Faribault, Minn. A native of Minnesota, he was born in Sherburne, in Martin county, May 13, 1878, to Perry G. and Annie Johnson, natives of Sweden. The father came to this country in 1860 and went first to Rock Island, Ill., where he was variously employed till his removal to Martin county, Minnesota, in 1865. Here he located a homestead of 160 acres and built a rude log house. He began in a primitive way and worked hard and economized, experiencing the trials and privations of pioneer life, but persevered and prospered withal. He improved the place with a commodious farm house and other buildings, and brought it to a high state of cultivation and productiveness, and carried on general farming, adding to his holdings from time to time until he now owns 800 acres of valuable land. He has served in various local offices and is an influential man in the community, being a director in the banks of Sherburne and Dunnell, and financially interested in other local industries. After the decease of his wife, which occurred in 1885, he married a second time.

Our subject acquired his education in the public schools of his native place and grew up a farmer boy on the family homestead. He began his business career in 1897 as a clerk in a clothing house, where he remained some eight years. Coming to Faribault, October 1, 1905, he spent four months clerking, and then

purchased a one-half interest in the business of Mr. A. B. Cooling. This relationship continued about two years, and in 1907 Mr. Johnson purchased his partner's interest and since that date the business has been conducted under the name of C. H. Johnson & Co. It is in every respect an up-to-date establishment carrying besides men's clothing of every description, hats and caps and a full and complete line of gentlemen's furnishings, and is a leader of its kind in Faribault. Mr. Johnson has devoted himself closely to his business and has had little leisure for outside affairs. He is identified with the B. P. O. E., also belongs to the Eagles, and is a member of the Faribault Commercial Club. He is a Republican in political belief, and in religious faith is connected with the Lutheran church. On August 28, 1907, Mr. Johnson married Miss Alice B., a daughter of Lewis and Mary Carlson, who came from Denmark, their native land, in an early day and settled at Albert Lea, Minn., where the father followed his trade as a carpenter. The family later moved to Sherburne, where the father and mother now live—1910. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have two children, Charles Gerald and Arthur Harold.

**Edward W. Johnson**, a progressive business man of Faribault, Minn., is a native of Chicago, Ill., his date of birth being April 15, 1873. He acquired his education in the public schools of his birthplace, after which he became a clerk in a retail grocery store for a short period, leaving this employment to take a similar position with a wholesale and retail cigar and tobacco company. Later he entered the wholesale grocery house of John A. Tolman Company, of Chicago, filling his place with credit for ten years, when, in 1900, he accepted the office of assistant manager of the Western Grocer Company, located at Albert Lea, Minn., remaining here two years. He then removed to Faribault, and early in 1903, together with W. A. Russell, started a wholesale and retail cigar and tobacco establishment, adding a billiard room in 1904. In 1906, he purchased Mr. Russell's interest, and moved into his present commodious quarters on Central avenue, now having one of the most up-to-date cigar stores in this section of the state, carrying a full and finely selected line of smoker's supplies. He has recently put in several new billiard and pool tables, and has three first-class bowling alleys. In connection with his main business, he conducts a well furnished cigar, periodical and candy stand in the postoffice building. As to politics, Mr. Johnson is a prominent member of the Democratic party, and has always taken an active interest in all that is good for Faribault and Rice county. In 1907 he was appointed a director on the board of trustees of the Institution for Defectives, by the late Gov. John A. Johnson, to fill out the unexpired term of the late Mr. McKellip, the following year being appointed for a term of



five years. He is identified with numerous fraternal organizations, being a Chapter Mason, a member of the F. O. E., having served as secretary of the last named association for two years. The Commercial Club also claims him as a member. December 4, 1907, he married Adilia Kaul, of Faribault. They have two children: Edward W., Jr., and Alelia Kaul. Their residence is located on Central avenue. Charles and Olivia (Hawkinson) Johnson, parents of our subject, were born in Sweden, coming from the Fatherland to this country in 1855, and locating at Chicago, where the father followed tailoring till his death in 1877. The mother later married W. P. Breen, of Chicago, and they now reside at Lake Bluff, a suburb of that city.

**Frederick E. Jenkins**, head master of St. James school, is a man well qualified by nature and training to fill the important position to which he has been called. With a sympathetic understanding of boy nature, he combines the qualities of exactness and justness, and his own life and character are an inspiration to the boys, who in the undeveloped years of their teens are placed in his charge. The subject of this sketch was born in Butler, Ill., January 20, 1866, son of Charles W. and Camilla (Burnap) Jenkins, natives respectively of South Carolina and Illinois, the father dying August 22, 1882, and the latter being still a resident of Hillsboro, Ill. Frederick E. received his education in the public schools of Illinois, and then attended the state normal school at Normal, in the same state, graduating in 1886. His first experience as a teacher was in Cedar Rapids, Neb., where he was principal for two years. In 1888 he was chosen superintendent of the public schools of Albion, Neb., and served there with much credit until 1893. While filling this position he studied law, and was admitted to the bar. In 1903 he went to Kansas City, Kan., and there took up the practice of law. In 1894 he came to Faribault as an instructor in the preparatory department of the Shattuck school. In 1901 he became principal of the Lower school, founded in that year. In 1909 this school was incorporated as St. James school, and Mr. Jenkins became its head master. Mr. Jenkins is a Mason, belonging to the local Blue Lodge, Commandery and Chapter. He has been master and high priest and commander of the Commandery. He also belongs to the Royal Arcanum, and has associated himself with the Faribault Commercial Club. He is an independent voter. Mr. Jenkins was married, July 25, 1888, at Lyons, Neb., to Ella Gregoire, of that place. This union has been blessed with one daughter, Jessie Winifred, a student in St. Mary's school.

**J. M. Jones** was born in Faribault, Minn., June 5, 1856. He is a son of J. John Jones and Plooma (Sargent) Jones, the father a native of Canada, and the mother of the state of Maine. Mr.



Jones was a farmer by occupation, and came to Minnesota in 1855; he located at Faribault, where he remained a short time, and then he pre-empted 160 acres in sections 27 and 28 in Forest township, where he has carried on general farming up to the present time. His wife died in 1893. Mr. Jones attended the district schools of Forest, and after leaving school worked on the farm until, in 1878, he bought a farm in section 27, Forest township, where he has done general farming and run a threshing outfit up to the present time. In 1877 he was married to Helen A. Smith, a daughter of Hugh and Hulda Smith, both natives of Maine. They came to Minnesota in about 1856, and pre-empted land in Rice county, and engaged in farming. The father died in 1885 and the mother in 1886. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Jones: Lillian, now Mrs. F. G. St. Mars, of Forest; Edith, now Mrs. Paul Thielbar, of Dundas; Grace, now Mrs. Cody, of Forest; Loren, now living at home, and Clifford, Joseph, Clarence and John, who are also living at home with their parents. In politics Mr. Jones is a Republican, and his religious affiliations are with the Methodist Episcopal Church. He has served on the town board of supervisors, and also on the school board at different times, is a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator Company of Faribault and in the Farmers Creamery of Forest.

**R. C. Krasemann**, a self-made and progressive business man of Faribault, Minn., was born in Germany, June 24, 1877. While still an infant, he left the Fatherland with his mother and came to America, locating at Faribault, Minn., where he received his education in the public schools. Afterwards, he worked four years in the A. L. Hill Furniture Factory, and then engaged in farming for five years, after which he embarked in the flour and feed and undertaking business on his own account, continuing in this line two years. Mr. Krasemann next entered into the elevator business, being connected with the Central Minnesota Elevator Company and rapidly rising to the position of manager. The company does an extensive and increasing business throughout this section of the state, owning the Sheffield Milling Company, the Sheffield King Milling Company, the Sheffield Elevator Company, and the Big Diamond Milling Company. Mr. Krasemann is now acting as manager of the last named company, in which capacity he has been very successful. As to political convictions, he holds to the principles of the Republican party, but has never aspired to office, being exclusively devoted to his business affairs. The Modern Brotherhood of America counts him a loyal supporter. June 26, 1901, he was united in marriage with Sybilla Kitzmann, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. August Kitzmann, to whom have been born two children: Walter, born in 1902,

and Carl, born August, 1908. Mr. and Mrs. Krasemann attend worship at the German Lutheran Church. Their home is on the corner of Second street and Eighth avenue. Carl and Caroline (Lindenburg), parents of our subject, were natives of Germany, where the father died in 1881. The mother came to America in the same year, settling at Faribault, where she died January 22, 1894. The father of Mrs. Krasemann is also deceased, but her mother is still living.

**William Kaut** has been a resident of Faribault, Minn., since the fall of 1905. He is a native of St. Louis, Mo., and was born September 3, 1882, and is a son of William and Lavina (Gerdman) Kaut. The father was born in Europe in 1848 and came to St. Louis in 1850. He was one of the leading commission merchants in St. Louis and was held in very high esteem. He served on the school board, was an active member of the Merchants' Exchange; also a member of the Odd Fellows, and stood high in the Masonic order. Both he and his wife were loyal members of the Presbyterian Church. He died in 1898, in St. Louis, at the early age of forty-two. The mother still resides in St. Louis. Our subject received a good grammar-school education in his native city and began his business life as office boy in a shoe factory, and has worked his way up, acquiring a thorough and practical knowledge of the shoe manufacturing business. He settled at Faribault in November, 1905, and accepted a position as foreman over a large force of men in the cutting department of the Shaft-Pierce Shoe Company. On March 2, 1908, Mr. Kaut was appointed superintendent of the factory, which position he still holds. In September, 1907, he married Myrtle Dean, whose parents were living in Pennsylvania, where the father still conducts a large department store, the mother having died in Fargo, N. D., in August, 1909. Mr. and Mrs. William Kaut have one child, named Virginia Fern.

**Frank M. Kaisersatt**, a native of Montgomery, Minn., was born January 27, 1880. Here he passed his boyhood, and acquired much of his education, completing this with a course in the Omaha Commercial College, of Omaha, Neb., in 1899. He then taught school in district No. 18, in Le Sueur county, for three years, during which time he also attended the Sherman high school at Montgomery, graduating from that institution with the class of 1904. In the year 1902 he accepted a position in a Rice county district, and was principal of the Willow Grove school in Wheatland township for two years. Acquitting himself with much credit, he was then offered the principalship of the Veseli school, which he filled with marked success for five years, and until his appointment as deputy county auditor, January, 1909, which position he now holds. In politics he is a follower of the

Republican party and his influence in public affairs has always been for the good; especially in educational lines has he been very active. Mr. Kaisersatt has served as town clerk of the town of Wheatland, and as justice of the peace of the village of Veseli. He is prominent in fraternal organizations, being a member of the Modern Brotherhood of America, the C. S. D. P. J. (Bohemian Workmen), the Z. C. K. J. (Bohemian Catholic Union). He was married, July 6, 1905, at St. Paul, to Anna E. Nestaval, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Nestaval, of Montgomery. They have one child, Harriet Mae Kaisersatt, born October 31, 1906. The family residence is on Second street, West. They are members of the Roman Catholic Church. Thomas J. and Catherine (Havel) Kaisersatt, parents of our subject, were natives of Bohemia, emigrating to America in 1865, and settling near Montgomery, Minn., where they engaged in general diversified farming till the father's death, July 6, 1901. The mother passed away in 1884.

**F. L. Klemer**, president of the Faribault Woolen Mills Company, was born in Watertown, Wis., September 4, 1856, and is a son of C. H. and Anna (Frederca) Klemer. The parents came from the fatherland to Watertown, Wis., in 1848, and lived on a farm there till 1857; thence went to Goodhue county, Minnesota, and farmed till 1865, when they moved to Rice county. Here the father established the business known as the Faribault Woolen Mills Company, and carried it on alone till 1892, when his two sons, our subject and H. F. Klemer, now vice-president and treasurer, were admitted to the business. The father of the concern died March 31, 1904; the mother died in January, 1893. Our subject attended the district schools and after leaving school he clerked three years in a shoe store, and later, with his brother, entered the woolen business, with which he has been connected ever since. In December, 1879, he married Lydia M., daughter of John and Elizabeth (Nippert) Schaefer. They had five children, viz.: Carl A., who was a practicing physician, and died in Germany in 1907; Edgar L., on fruit farm in Oregon; Walter F., who works in the woolen mills, and Albert A. and Helen E., who are attending school. Mr. Klemer belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen, is a Republican in politics, and in religious faith is affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal Church. F. H. Klemer, who is a son of H. F. and Catherine (Roth) Klemer, natives of Wisconsin and Ohio, respectively, was born at Faribault, October 21, 1878. He acquired his education in the schools of his native place and at the State University, where he was graduated in 1901. He then spent three years in the engineering department of the Northern Pacific Railroad and in 1904 became bookkeeper for the Woolen Mills Company. On Octo-

ber 16, 1907, he married Eleanor Jennings, and they have one child, named Mary Catherine.

**Aris B. Kelly**, a retired druggist of Northfield, where he was engaged for many years in the drug business, was born in Perrysburg, Ohio, August 21, 1852, and came to Minnesota in 1865, locating on a farm near Lakeville, Dakota county. Tiring of farm life and anxious to make something of himself, he came to Northfield in 1869, and became a clerk in a general store of Hiram Scriver, where he remained ten years. In 1879 he engaged in the drug business, in partnership with J. L. Blackman, continuing in this capacity until 1882, when Mr. Blackman sold his interest to Mr. Kelly and J. S. Tripp was taken into the firm as a partner. They conducted the business for a period of seventeen years, after which Mr. Tripp sold to Henry B. Hamre, who had been a clerk in the store for many years. In the spring of 1909, Mr. Kelly sold his interest to Mr. Hamre, and retired from business. The building in which the store is located was built in 1886 by Mr. Kelly and is of brick and modern in every respect. Mr. Kelly is a very public-spirited citizen and has done much toward the growth and development of the city. He has served as a member of the council as alderman for six years, and is at present Federal supervisor of the Third congressional district in taking the thirteenth census in 1910. He has served five successive terms in the state legislature, where he has done faithful and efficient service. He is a member of high standing in the Masonic order, holding the office of treasurer, and belongs to the I. O. O. F., of Northfield, in which he has held all the offices. He is also a member of the Commercial Club, and has served as president for the past three years. In his politics he is Republican. Robert and Amanda (Donaldson) Kelly, parents of Aris B. Kelly, were natives of Pennsylvania and Virginia. The former was born August 12, 1813, and the mother May 18, 1825, daughter of Thomas Donaldson, who was born July 25, 1786, in Virginia, and married Nancy Saffer, also born in Virginia, October 8, 1790. He died in Muskingum county, Ohio, July 27, 1835, and his wife passed away November 30, 1879. They were the parents of five children: Frank, George H., and John B. are dead; Henry K. lives in Minneapolis, Minn., and Aris B. is the subject of this sketch. Their great-grandfather, William Donaldson, came from Scotland in colonial times, and settled in Virginia. Mr. Kelly was married December 12, 1878, to Arvilla M. Eckles, who was born near Fort Wayne, Allen county Ind., March 15, 1855, daughter of William and Mary A. (Fetterer) Eckles. Mrs. Kelly comes of a sturdy Revolutionary stock, her great-grandfather, Arthur Eckles, having served seven years in the Revolutionary War, taking part in the battle of the Brandy-



wine and other engagements. His son, John Eckles, served in the War of 1812, and his son, William Eckles, father of Mrs. Kelly, at the second call in 1861 for volunteers, formed Company G, Fourteenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, being at that time a resident of Antwerp, Ohio, and served three years and five months. He was chosen captain of his company and they joined the forces of General Sherman, and were constantly in action. He was the youngest of seven children, and was born November 30, 1821, and was married September 29, 1843, to Mary A. Fetterer, who was born June 28, 1830. He died in Glendora, Cal., October 26, 1906, but the mother still lives at Pasadena, Cal. Mr. Eckles' father, John Eckles, was born in Beaver county, Pennsylvania, February 18, 1788, and was married October 24, 1811, to Martha Hannon, who died in 1825. Her husband died at Northfield, September 13, 1872, at the advanced age of eighty-four years. To Mr. and Mrs. Kelly have been born two sons: Aris Verne, born January 3, 1881, is a graduate of the high school of Northfield, and afterwards took a course at the State University, and is now holding the responsible position of credit man with Haley & Lang Company, of Sioux Falls, S. D. He married Fannie L. Babcock, October 12, 1905, and they have one child, Lawrence B., born May 5, 1907. The second son, Ralph E., was born February 1, 1883, is also a graduate of the Northfield high school and completed his studies with a business course and afterward entered the employ of Mr. Hamre, of Northfield.

**Anthony W. Karp**, an enterprising young business man of Faribault, Minn., was born there August 12, 1884. He is the fifth child of a family of thirteen children born to John P. and Mary (Degross) Karp, the former being a native of Germany and the latter of New Market, Scott county, Minn. The father, who is a shoe dealer, came to this country in 1869. He first settled in Hastings, in Dakota county, Minnesota, but in 1872 opened a shoe store at Faribault and conducted it in his own name till 1907, when the firm of A. W. Karp & Company was organized. The father and mother are both living. Of their other children, Elizabeth, the eldest, is a Sister of Mercy at Duluth; Theo J. is clerking at Faribault; Henry J. also lives at Faribault; Peter resides at Portland, Ohio; Mary lives at home; Margaret lives at Duluth, Minn., and Lena, Michael, Josephus, Mathilda, George and Cecelia live with their parents. Anthony W. acquired a good English education in the public schools at Faribault, and after finishing his studies entered his father's store and familiarized himself with all the details of the shoe business, remaining with his father till 1907, when the present firm of A. W. Karp & Company was formed. This firm has a fine up-to-date store supplied with all the necessary appli



ances and conveniences of a first-class establishment, and carries on a large and constantly growing trade. Mr. Karp is a man of progressive ideas, prompt and reliable in his dealings, and thoroughly businesslike in his methods, and has the confidence of all. He is a Democrat in his political beliefs and predilections, and in religious faith adheres to the German Catholic Church of his father and mother. He is also identified with the German Benevolent Society, and C. O. F.

**William Kueker**, a self-made and energetic business man of Faribault, Minn., was born March 22, 1866, in Elk Grove, Ill. He received his early education in the parochial schools of the German Lutheran Church, supplementing this with a course in the Elgin Academy, of Elgin, Ill. Leaving school, he was employed as a bookkeeper for a short period, and then, in 1888, entered into the milling business at Milwaukee, Wis., in which he remained three years. Removing to Chicago, he started a retail catalogue seed house, incorporating under the laws of Illinois as the Farmers' Seed Company, with himself as president, and Louis Lange and Otto Kozlowski as secretary and treasurer, respectively. In 1894 they removed their plant to Faribault, reincorporating in accordance with the laws of Minnesota, and also retaining their former corporation rights in Illinois. The affairs of the company have grown and prospered under the judicious management of its officers, there being a steadily increasing demand for its products throughout the Northwest. Since Mr. Kozlowski's death, in 1899, Mr. Kueker has borne the brunt of the control of the company. His duties as a director of the Citizens' National Bank of Faribault and of the Faribault Loan and Insurance Company also help to make him a very busy man. In politics he votes as his conscience dictates, irrespective of party, and has never aspired to office, his other interests claiming all his time and attention. The Commercial Club knows him as a loyal member. June 4, 1891, he was married to Wanda T. Kozlowski, of Milwaukee. Three children have blessed this marriage: Clara C., Elsie, and Irma. The family are regular attendants of the German Lutheran Church. They reside at 722 Second street, West. Henry and Louise (Deike) Kueker, parents of William, are natives of Germany. The father emigrated to this country at the age of seven years, with his parents. After attaining manhood, he settled on a farm near Elk Grove, Ill., with his wife, continuing farming till his retirement from active work. He now lives at Itasca, Ill.

**William S. Kingsley**, Faribault contractor and builder, to whose skill many of the buildings of the state institutions here will long stand as a monument, is a native of this state, born January 25, 1869. He came to Faribault with his parents, and

after leaving school took up the contracting business with his father. Since the death of the father he has successfully conducted the business on a large scale for himself. Mr. Kingsley is a Republican in politics. He belongs to the Masons, the Elks, the Eagles, the United Workmen, the Modern Brotherhood, and the Faribault Commercial Club. At one time he served in the state militia. Mr. Kingsley was married June 2, 1897, to Julia E. Kenney, of Richland township, daughter of J. D. Kenney, a well-known farmer. Two children have gladdened the Kingsley home: Raymond W., born May 20, 1898, and Mary E., born August 5, 1900. The family faith is that of the Roman Catholic Church.

The parents of William S. Kingsley were S. J. and Mary (Greenville) Kingsley, the former of whom came to Minnesota in 1865, and the latter in 1856. S. J. Kingsley was a contractor of the early days. He followed the gold rush to California in 1849, and remained there six years. He located in St. Paul in 1865, was there married, then came to Faribault, and became one of the leading contractors, his first contract being for the building of the first wing of the state school for the deaf. He died November 9, 1895. His wife is still living. The Kingsleys, father and son, have both assisted in the growth and development of Faribault, and the son occupies the position of esteem and confidence so long held by his father.

Rev. Wilbur R. Keesey, pastor of the First Methodist Church of Northfield, was born in Philadelphia, Pa., April 3, 1869. His parents were William H. Keesey and Josephine M. Ruth Keesey. Wilbur R. was educated in the public schools of his native city. After graduating from these schools he learned the trade of marble and stone cutter, being apprenticed to his father, who was engaged in that business. In 1888 he entered Pennington Seminary, New Jersey, and there took up his studies for the ministry, graduating in 1891. His first pulpit was in Lima, Delaware county, Pa., where he remained about seven months. In September, 1891, he became pastor of the Methodist Church at Eyota, Olmsted county, Minn., where he served one year. In November, 1891, he was united in marriage with Anna A. Quail, of Philadelphia, and to this union have been born five sons, the oldest being seventeen years of age. Rev. Keesey was admitted to the Minnesota Annual Conference in September, 1892, and has served the following churches: Eyota, Olmsted county, 1891-92; Fillmore, Fillmore county, 1892-95; Marion, Olmsted county, 1895-98; Elmore, Faribault county, 1898-1903; Owatonna, Steele county, 1903-07; Northfield, Rice county, 1907 to the present time.

**Edward F. Kelly**, register of deeds of Rice county since 1908, was born in Kilkenny, Le Sueur county, this state, January 12, 1864. He received a parochial-school education and clerked in a store at Faribault for six years. In March, 1888, he engaged in the grocery business, an enterprise which he has since continued. In 1889 he was elected chief of the fire department and served two years. At the reorganization in 1896 he was again elected chief, and has since continued to serve in that capacity. In addition to his efficient work as head of the local department, Chief Kelly is also statistician of the State Fire Department Association. For many years Mr. Kelly has been a member of the Knights of Columbus, and at the present time is serving as State Secretary of that order. He also belongs to the Ancient Order of Hibernians, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Royal Neighbors, the Fraternal Order of Eagles, and the Faribault Commercial Club, of which latter he is a director.

**John F. Kalina** was born in Wheatland township, October 4, 1877, a son of John and Katherine Kalina, both natives of Bohemia, who came to this country about 1867 and located in Wheatland township, where he farmed until 1908; he then retired and now lives in Lonsdale. Mr. Kalina attended the district school in Wheatland, and also in Olivia and Minneapolis, and after leaving school worked on the farm with his father until 1903, when he took the management of the farm, and has carried on general farming up to the present time. He was married in 1902 to Mary Peterka, a daughter of James and Annie Peterka. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Kalina: William and Frank, both living at home with their parents. Mr. Kalina is a member of the Catholic Church, and his political affiliations are with the Republican party. He is a member of the lodge of the Modern Woodmen of America at Lonsdale, and is one of the board of town supervisors.

**Hugh Kane**, a prosperous farmer of Richland township, was born in Shields township, Marquette county, Wis., November 1, 1851. He is a son of John and Bridget (Finnegan) Kane, natives of Ireland. The father, a farmer by occupation, immigrated to America in 1849, locating in Marquette county, Wisconsin, where he bought a farm, which he improved and on which he engaged in general farming up to the time of his decease, in 1890. The mother passed away in 1903.

Hugh received his early education in the district schools of Wisconsin. He also attended the high school for two years at Montello, Wis. Leaving school, he went to work on a farm for some time. In 1883 he moved to Minnesota, locating in Richland township, Rice county, where he settled on 160 acres of land in section 28 and bought another 160 acres in section 27.

He makes his home in section 28. Mr. Kane has been tilling the soil here with success ever since. He makes a specialty of raising Holstein cattle and Percheron horses, and has met with a marked degree of success. Mr. Kane was married in 1878 to Jane, daughter of James and Margaret (Moore) Calnin. The parents were natives of Ireland. The father came to America in 1848, locating in New York state, where he was engaged in farming until 1850; from there he removed to Wisconsin and bought a farm on which he remained up to the time of his decease, in 1899. Mrs. Calnin still lives on the farm in Wisconsin. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Kane has been blessed with nine children, viz.: Mary, now Mrs. Jos. E. Underdahl, farmer of Richland township; Margaret, who died in 1883; Joanna and Raymond, both living at home; Leo, teaches school in South Dakota; Jane, Blanch, Isabella, are all living at home; Esther, deceased. Mr. Kane is Democratic in his political views. He is a member of the Catholic Church. He takes a live interest in public affairs, having served as town assessor for seventeen years, as treasurer of the school board since 1907, and as clerk of the school board for three years. He is also interested in a number of co-operative institutions, being a stockholder in the Richland Creamery, Farmers' Elevator of Faribault, and the Kenyon Percheron Horse Company.

**George W. Kirk**, a native of Cincinnati, Ohio, was born March 12, 1850, the eldest of eight children born to Thomas and Mary (Thompson) Kirk, natives of England. The father came to this country in 1831, settling first in Indiana and later going to Cincinnati, where he was engaged in dairying till 1854. In the fall of that year he went to Burlington, Iowa, and in the spring of 1855 settled on a tract of 160 acres, which he pre-empted, in Wells township, Rice county, Minn. Here he built a rude log house, and settled his family and established the family home. The log house was later supplanted by a commodious modern farm house, a good barn and other buildings were built, and the place brought to a high state of cultivation and productiveness under his good management. The father carried on general farming here until his decease, which occurred October 3, 1868. His widow survived him many years and passed away in May, 1909.

George W. received his schooling in the district school, and when he was eighteen years old, on the death of his father, took charge of the home farm. He afterwards purchased the interests of the other heirs in the homestead, and gave his attention especially to dairy farming. Mr. Kirk has always been an influential man in the community and has served in various local offices. He served thirty-three years as clerk of the school district, a



number of years as town treasurer and five years as chairman of the town board. In politics he is a Democrat with independent tendencies, and in religious faith is an Episcopalian. For six years last past he has served as justice of the peace.

**Charles Kiel**, who owns a fertile farm of 160 acres in Wheeling township, was born in Cook county, Illinois, January 11, 1865, son of William and Sophia (Senne) Kiel, natives of Germany. The father, a farmer and carpenter by trade, emigrated to America in 1852 and located in Illinois, where he engaged in farming until 1868. He then moved to Minnesota and located in the township of Wheeling, Rice county, where he bought 160 acres in section 27; also ten acres of timber land in section 16. This land he improved and engaged in farming, which he continued up to the time of his decease, May 6, 1907. The mother passed away March 23, 1908. The subject of this sketch was educated in the district schools of Wheeling township and the public schools of Faribault. Leaving school, he was engaged as a clerk in the dry goods store of J. W. Kollman at Faribault, and in 1886 he returned to the old homestead, where he worked with his father until 1902; at this time he became possessor of the old homestead, where he has been engaged in general and diversified farming up to the present time.

September 29, 1904, Mr. Kiel married Minnie (born March 21, 1870), daughter of W. L. T. and Louisa (Kiekenapp) Meyer, who came to America in 1855 and located in Illinois, where Mr. Meyer worked on a farm until early in the sixties, whence he removed to Minnesota and located in the township of Wheeling, where he farmed until the outbreak of the Civil War. He then enlisted in the Eighth Regiment Minnesota Volunteers, and saw actual service all during the war, and also fought in the Indian outbreak. After the end of the war, he was discharged with honor, and he returned to his farm, where he has carried on general farming up to the present time. The mother passed away September 12, 1897. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Kiel is blessed with one child, Elsie, who was born August 30, 1906. Mr. Kiel is identified with the public affairs in his vicinity, and has served as town clerk since 1905, which position he still holds. He is also road overseer. Mr. Kiel takes an active interest in and is a stockholder of the Nerstrand Co-operative Creamery.

**William J. Kalow** is one of the enterprising and progressive business men of Morristown, Minn., who has made his way by dint of hard work, industrious habits and clear foresight. He is a native of Good Thunder, Blue Earth county, Minn., and was born September 30, 1884, the second child of a family of nine children born to Adolph and Fredricka (Krueger) Kalow. The father, who was born in July, 1852, in the Province of Branden-



burg, Germany, came to the United States in 1881, landing at Baltimore, Md. Thence he went to Minnesota and settled on a small farm in Blue Earth county, with his family and lived there till 1903. He went thence with his family to Prince Edward county, Virginia, and there lived two and a half years, and then returned to Minnesota and settled at Faribault, where he now lives. William J. educated in the German Lutheran schools of his native place and after his confirmation, at the age of fifteen years, left school and served an apprenticeship under Adolph Billet at Good Thunder, learning the harnessmaker's trade. After serving his apprenticeship he worked at his trade as a journeyman at Lewistown eight months, and then accompanied his father and family to Virginia and opened a small harness shop at Farmville, in Prince Edward county. Returning to Minnesota in July, 1906, he worked for two years for Mr. H. F. Kester at Faribault, and in 1908 settled at Morristown. Beginning in a modest way, Mr. Kalow opened a small harness shop, one door south of his present location and laid the foundations of his present prosperous and growing business. With the growth of his trade, the business outgrew his narrow quarters and in October, 1908, he purchased the building which he now occupies, being twenty-two by sixty feet in dimensions, and on the 11th of the following January had it fitted up ready for occupancy, and moved in. The establishment is thoroughly equipped with all the necessary machinery and appliances required in a first-class, up-to-date harness shop and store, and with the stock represents a valuation of \$3,000, while the well established trade extends throughout Rice and adjoining counties and is steadily growing. Mr. Kalow won his success by faithful work, and well deserves the confidence and respect in which he is universally held as a reliable and progressive business man. Mr. Kalow is identified with the German Lutheran Church. He married, June 2, 1910, Anna Borchert, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Aug. Borchert.

**Seth H. Kenney**, known as the "Sorghum King," was born at Williamstown, Mass., February 22, 1836, and has lived in Minnesota since 1857. He spent two years working under Gen. Levi Nutting at Faribault, and in the spring of 1859 bought, for \$350, 120 acres of land in Morristown township, Rice county, which he proceeded to improve, and where he has since made his home and reared his family. In 1860 Mr. Kenney began in a small way the manufacture of sorghum. His first mill for crushing the cane consisted of two wooden rollers made by hand, propelled by a yoke of oxen attached to a sweep, and with a capacity of thirty-two gallons per day. The increase in the business warranting, he, in 1872, erected an iron mill propelled by horse

power, with a capacity of sixty-four gallons per day, and his product at this time sold for \$1 and \$1.25 per gallon. In 1866, he enlarged his plant and installed a twelve-horsepower engine. This was the first steam sorghum mill in the state and had a capacity of twelve barrels per day. It was destroyed by fire in the fall of 1868, and the following summer he built two modern horsepower mills which served his purposes ten years, and in 1879 he installed a fifteen-horsepower engine, five-ton mill, and remodeled his entire plant, comprising a mill house thirty by sixty-two feet, engine house twenty-two by twenty-six feet, storage and granulating house thirty by forty feet, three stories high, boiling house sixteen by thirty feet, refining mill twenty feet deep, and centrifugal machine for draining the sugar. The capacity of the plant was 700 gallons of syrup and 600 pounds of sugar per day, and the output was shipped to all parts of the United States. Mr. Kenney holds medals from the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893, the first cash prize for Amber cane syrup from the New Orleans exposition, also the second, a diploma and a gold medal from the Paris Exposition. In 1905 the sorghum plant was sold to a company in Faribault, and was later removed to that place. Mr. Kenney then started a small factory in Waterville, in partnership with a young man, Leslie Fowler, to whom he sold his interest in January, 1910. For a number of years Mr. Kenney has devoted much time to the culture of fruit trees, especially apple, and is widely known as a practical, experienced and expert horticulturist. He has written numerous articles on various phases of the subject, which have been widely circulated. Mr. Kenney has always been recognized as a leader in his community, and has been called to fill numerous offices. He has served two terms as justice of the peace; has been road supervisor and school clerk, and in 1879 was elected to the state legislature. He has always been an earnest church supporter and Sunday school worker. He was one of the charter members of the First Baptist Church of Waterville, Minn., and organized the first Sunday school in his community, held in a log school house. He constructed a commodious hall, in the upper part of his sugar house, where for many years religious services were held, attended by all classes, before the Lutheran Church was organized in Morristown township. In 1859 Mr. Kenney married Miss Olive Purinton, who was born in March, 1836, in Massachusetts. Four children were born to them. The eldest, Elias, is a prosperous farmer, having settled near the old home; the second, Mary, who was married to Mr. Edwin McAdams, of Brooklyn, N. Y., is deceased; the third, Fred, and the fourth, Myron, are skilled mechanics, residing near the Pacific coast. Mr. and Mrs. Kenney

have nine grandchildren, viz.: Florence and Seth H., daughter and son of Elias, an older son being deceased; Olive, daughter of Mary, who was reared by, and now lives with, her grandparents; Jesse, Mary, Sophronia and Ruth, son and daughters of Fred; Clarence and Mabel, son and daughter of Myron. There are three great-grandchildren, sons of Clarence.

**Ferdinand Kelm** has lived in Warsaw township, Rice county, Minn., more than a quarter of a century, and is counted among the prosperous and substantial farmers of the community. He was born in Germany, February 11, 1859, and is a son of Carl and Caroline (Wilkel) Kelm, who came from Germany in 1883, and settled on a farm of 100 acres, which the father purchased in Warsaw township, Rice county, where he died, and where the mother is now living.

Ferdinand attended school in his native place and there learned and worked at the mason's trade. He came to the United States with his father and mother when he was twenty-four years old, in 1883, and for a time followed his trade, and then turned his attention to farming. In 1906 he purchased sixty acres and then thirty acres, which, with the home farm of 100 acres, he has since managed, carrying on general farming and stock raising, with eminent success. Mr. Kelm has given particular care to breeding and raising fine stock, especially Percheron horses and Durham cattle. He has been somewhat active in public matters, serving in local offices, such as school treasurer, supervisor, etc., and is interested in the Faribault Creamery and also the Faribault Elevator. Before leaving the Fatherland, he served three years in the German army. He is a Republican in political sentiment, and with his family is connected with the German Lutheran Church. On December 24, 1892, Mr. Kelm married Emma Dahke, whose parents passed their lives in Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Kelm have two children, Ida and Ernest, both of whom are living with their parents.

**John Knauss**, a thrifty farmer of Wheeling township, is a native son of Minnesota, being born in Wheeling township August 13, 1862, to Fred and Magdalina (Barbaras) Knauss, natives of Germany. The father, who was a farmer, came to America in the forties. He was one of the pioneers of Illinois, where he engaged in farming until 1856, when he moved to Minnesota and located in Wheeling township, Rice county. Here he bought 160 acres of prairie land, which he improved and did general farming until the time of his decease, in 1885. The mother survived her husband and died in 1903. The subject of this sketch received his education in the district schools of Wheeling. Leaving school, he started life on his father's farm, where he worked until 1885. He then rented the homestead,

which he continued to do until 1898, when he bought the farm where he still carries on general farming. Mr. Knauss was married in 1886 to Sarah, daughter of Christ and Elizabeth (Bauernfiend). They, natives of Germany, emigrated to America in the early days and located in Wheeling township, Rice county, in the later fifties, where they were engaged in farming until 1906. Retiring from the farm, they moved to Nerstrand, where they still live. There were seven children born to Mr. and Mrs. Knauss: Jesse C., who is fireman on the Chicago Great Western Railroad; Harvey attends a business school in Faribault; Roy F. attends school at Nerstrand; Willard, Emma, Earl and Mabel are all living at home. Mr. Knauss is a Republican voter. He is a member of the United Evangelical Church. He has always aided in the public welfare of his community, having served as supervisor of the town board and also on the school board. He is a stockholder in the creamery at Nerstrand.

**John King**, a farmer of Webster township, was born in Paterson, N. J., May 26, 1853, son of Mitcheal and Bridget (Carsoll) King. Their father emigrated from Ireland, his native country, in 1851, and located at Paterson, N. J. He was married at Philadelphia, and moved from Paterson to Illinois in 1854. In the spring of 1855 the parents came to Minnesota and located at St. Paul; in 1856 they came to Rice county and located in Webster township, where they bought 160 acres of land in sections 17 and 20, on which they did a general farming until the father's death, March, 1862. The mother later married James Keegan, of Webster township, and continued to live on the Keegan homestead, with her son, Andrew Keegan. Our subject was educated in the common school of Webster township. Leaving school, he farmed for some time. He devoted thirteen years to the carpenter's trade, running a threshing machine in season. Two years of this time was spent in St. Paul, Minn. In 1895 he returned to the old homestead and remained there until 1907, at which time he sold out and bought another farm of 120 acres, located partly in section 13, Webster township, and partly in Dakota county, where he successfully continues farming up to the present time (1910). Besides our subject, there are two step-brothers in this family and three sisters from the first marriage. Mr. King was married in 1888 to Katherine, daughter of James and Lucy Kiley, of Webster township. Mrs. King died in 1899. Mr. King married a second time in 1895, Mary E., daughter of Timothy and Margaret Gleason, of Webster township. There were four boys born to this union; the names, in respective order of their birth, are: John V., Timothy W., James M., Frances L., all living at home. Mr. King does not affiliate with any political party, but is an independent voter.



He, with his family, belong to the Catholic church. He has served in his community as town supervisor and clerk for a number of years, and at present as justice of the peace. He has aided in public enterprises in his community, and is a stockholder in the Webster creamery, which he managed for five years; also stockholder of the Farmers' Elevator Company of Northfield, and the Webster Co-operative Telephone Company, and is also associated with the Le Sueur County Co-operative Store Company.

**John Kratt**, a prosperous farmer of Rice county, Minnesota, was born at Württemberg, Germany, September 5, 1866, to John and Anna Haug Kratt. The father died on January 1, 1907, at the age of sixty-six years, in the fatherland, where the mother still lives. They reared a family of six sons and one daughter, all of whom live in Germany, except our subject, John, the eldest of the family, and his brother Mike. The former attended school in his native land and when sixteen years old came to this country and began his life here as a day laborer at Duluth, Minn., and also attended school. In the winter of 1885 he settled in Morristown, earning his living for a time by chopping wood, after which he was engaged in teaming, and finally turned his attention to farming. He rented different farm lands in Morristown township till 1897, and then moved onto what was known as the J. P. Temple farm, in Section 13, consisting of 135 acres, which he purchased in 1904 for \$6,000. Mr. Kratt has made his way by hard work, and by clear foresight, economy and thrift has attained a degree of success of which he may justly be proud. His is one of the model farms in Rice county, fenced and improved with good buildings, well stocked with improved shorthorn cattle, horses and hogs, and equipped with all necessary farm implements and modern machinery. By rotating his crops and careful fertilizing he keeps his land productive and thus makes his investment a paying enterprise. He is a leading man in the community and takes a commendable interest in its affairs. Since 1903 he has been treasurer of School District No. 54, and in 1909 was elected supervisor for a term of three years. In politics he believes in right principles rather than party. He is also identified with the Modern Woodmen of America. In 1889 Mr. Kratt married Mary, daughter of David and Amy (Chapman) Temple, the former of whom is deceased, but the latter lives in Morristown. Mr. and Mrs. Kratt have seven children, named in the order of their births, respectively: John, Earl, Lois, Fred, Inez, Dorothy and Roy.

**John Kenney** was born in Ireland, November 24, 1838. He is the son of Andrew and Anna (McNermey) Kenney, who were natives of Ireland. Mr. Kenney's occupation was that of



a farmer. He came to America with his family in 1846, locating in New York state, where he worked in a tannery until 1857. At that time he came west to Minnesota, and located in the town of Walcott, Rice county, where he bought 160 acres of land, on which he did general farming until his death, in August, 1900. The mother died March 16, 1881.

Mr. Kenney was educated in the lower schools of Ireland and in the district schools of New York state. After leaving school he worked out until 1857, when he came west with his father. He then went to work assisting a plasterer in Faribault, which trade he mastered. In the fall of 1857 he went to Ohio, where he worked until spring of 1858, when he went to Covington, Ky., at which place he stayed until 1859, going from there to Vicksburg, Miss., and continuing to roam over the south until August, 1862, when he returned to Minnesota, where he worked with his father until, in 1863, he went to Minneapolis, where he worked at his trade until 1869. That year he returned to Walcott and bought 160 acres of land in Section 24, where he has made his home up to the present time. He now owns 340 acres. He was married May 14, 1865, to Cecelia Caghalan, daughter of Patrick and Hannah (Ward) Caghalan, both natives of Ireland. Mr. Caghalan was a farmer by occupation and died in Ireland. Mrs. Caghalan came to America, living with her son for some time, and then moving to Minneapolis, where she died. Ten children have blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Kenney. Anna lives at home; Katie C. died in January, 1905; Andrew and Michael H. live on the farm; John died in 1874; Winnifred, now Mrs. John Devatt, of Minneapolis; Mary E. lives at Minneapolis; Eilen Jane lives at Faribault; Thomas G., assistant state superintendent Minnesota State Training School, at Red Wing, and William G., who lives at Wabasha, Minn. In politics Mr. Kenney is a Democrat, and his religious faith Catholic. For twelve years he has been treasurer for School District No. 12. He is a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator Company of Faribault and of the Richland Creamery.

**John William Le Crone**, who holds an honorable place in the legal profession at Faribault, Minn., is a native of Effingham, Ill. He was born February 2, 1872, and is next to the youngest child of a family of five children born to William C. and Emeline E. (Kagay) Le Crone, natives of Pennsylvania. Of their other children, Emily, the eldest, married Dr. Charles A. M. McMurray, and lives at DeKalb, Ill.; Anna lives at home; Sarah E. is a librarian, and Nellie J. also lives at home. The father settled in Illinois at an early day. He was traveling salesman, and in 1884 moved to St. Paul, Minn., and traveled

as a salesman two years, and in 1886 settled with his family at Faribault, where he lived till his decease, which occurred February 15, 1908, since which time the mother has made her home with our subject. John W., after completing his preliminary studies, having been graduated from Shattuck School in 1890, he took a two years' academic course at the University of Minnesota, then studied a year in the law department of that institution, and 1894 was graduated at Wesley University. Mr. Le Crone began the practice of his profession in his native town, but continued there only eight months, and in 1895 opened an office at Faribault, and has become well known as a thorough lawyer, a convincing advocate, and a safe and reliable counselor. He is a Democrat, and has been somewhat active in the local councils of his party. He held the office of county attorney in 1899-1900. Mr. Le Crone is a member of the Masonic order, belongs to the Knights of Pythias, is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America and is chairman of the entertainment committee of the Commercial Club of Faribault. In religious belief he is an Episcopalian.

**Peter B. Langeslag**, who has been successful in his line of general teaming, is a native of Holland, and was born August 16, 1875, a son of Peter and Hannah Knipers Langeslag, natives of Holland. The father came to this country in the spring of 1889 and engaged in farming at Faribault, but later moved to Cannon City. Peter B. acquired his schooling in his native place and grew up on a farm. He came to this country in 1892 and worked with his father farming till 1897, when he leased a quarter section of land in Warsaw township, Rice county, and worked it two years. In 1899 Mr. Langeslag abandoned the farm and turned his attention to general teaming. He began in a small way, hauling, moving, excavating, grading, and, in fact, doing anything requiring the use of teams, increasing his force of teams and men with the growth of his business, and now, besides seventeen horses of his own, employs eight hired teams to meet the demands of his business.

Mr. Langeslag is a Democrat in politics, but has never held office. In religious matters he, with his family, adhere to the German Catholic faith. On October 4, 1899, Mr. Langeslag married Mrs. Lamberdia Thorn (nee Donkers), a daughter of John and Theodora (Vandenboogar) Donkers, who came from Holland, their native land, to Rice county, Minnesota, in 1888. The father died at the family home in 1904 and the mother now—1910—resides at Cannon City. Mr. and Mrs. Langeslag have six children, viz.: Susie T., John P., Fred W. (Thorn), Johanna M., Dorothy M., and Bertram N. Langeslag.

**Frederick J. Lenz, Jr.**, is a leading druggist in Faribault who has made his way to a place of prominence in his profession by careful and diligent study and work. He is a native of the Gopher State, and was born at Minneapolis, August 13, 1875, to Frederick J. and Clara (Hubbard) Lenz, natives of Germany and Austria, respectively. The father settled in Milwaukee in 1856 and in 1865 moved to St. Anthony. He was a farmer in early life, but later followed the cabinet maker's trade. He settled at Northfield in 1898, removed to Faribault in 1905, and now lives there. The mother departed this life in the year 1900. Our subject supplemented his common school education with a high school course at Minneapolis. He then turned his attention to study, preparatory to becoming a professional pharmacist, and pursued a course of study and practice at the Institute of Pharmacy at Minneapolis. After clerking a number of years as a registered pharmacist Mr. Lenz, on November 25, 1908, opened business on his own account, as proprietor of the high-class, up-to-date drug store that bears his name, making a specialty of filling prescriptions. Mr. Lenz is identified with the Masonic order, is a member of the B. P. O. E. and the Modern Samaritans, and belongs to the Commercial Club of Faribault. He is a Democrat in politics. On November 15, 1904, Mr. Lenz married Mary, daughter of T. J. and Annie (Byrnes) McCarthy, of Faribault.

**Albert R. Leach**, an enterprising and up-to-date business man of Faribault, is a native son of that city, being born July 2, 1869. His education was received in the public schools of Faribault and at Hamline University, from which he was graduated in 1896. After school he went to North Dakota as manager of a lumber yard for two years, and then returned to Faribault, going into partnership in the lumber business with his father and brother under the firm name of E. M. Leach & Sons. Just previous to the death of the father, in 1907, the company incorporated as E. M. Leach & Sons Lumber Company, and Albert R. became secretary and treasurer. It is largely owing to his untiring and judicious management that the business of the firm has grown to its present large proportions. Besides this extensive lumber business they make a specialty of manufacturing a fine grade of interior finish, etc., for which there is an ever-increasing demand. Mr. Leach is also interested in extensive apple lands in Oregon. In politics he usually supports the Republican party, but considers the fitness of the man for the office of first importance. The E. F. U. claims him as a loyal member. June 17, 1903, he was married to Jennie R. Coburn, born to Mr. and Mrs. James Coburn, of Wallhalla, N. D., June 17, 1882. Mr. and Mrs. Leach have had

three children: Muriel E., born June 11, 1906; Eloise E., born July 23, 1907; and Albert E., whose natal date was June 2, 1909, died January 23, 1910. The family reside at the corner of First street and Sixth avenue. Their religious faith is that of the Methodist Episcopal church. Edward M. and Caroline (Stowell) Leach, parents of our subject, were natives of Vermont. Migrating west, in 1851, the father came to Faribault, Minn., in 1855, after spending four years in Illinois and Iowa. Arriving in Faribault, where he was married, he engaged in the manufacture of doors and sash, together with L. C. Ingram, buying out his partner's interest in 1881 and continuing in the business until his death in September, 1907. His wife died December 24, 1903.

**Herbert P. Leach**, one of Faribault's representative substantial business men, was born and reared in that city, his date of birth being April 5, 1868. He acquired his education in the public schools, after which he entered the employ of his father in the lumber business. In 1895 he became a partner in the company together with his father and brother, the firm being known as E. M. Leach & Sons, and in 1907, when the company was incorporated as E. M. Leach & Sons Lumber Company, he was tendered the office of vice-president, and has been president since February, 1909. Through square dealing and absolute integrity he has won his way into the confidence of the community. In politics he is an adherent of the Republican party, and takes an active interest in the public welfare, though he has never sought office, his other interests demanding all his time and attention. He is a stockholder in the Citizens' National Bank and in Shaft-Pierce Shoe Factory. The Knights of Pythias, the B. P. O. E., the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Modern Samaritans count him an active supporter of their various organizations. He was also affiliated with the local commercial club, and has served five years in Company B, Second Minnesota National Guard. June 15, 1904, he was united in marriage with Flora E. Wood, of Minneapolis, by whom he has three children: Willis H., born March 19, 1905; Stowell D., who was born December 19, 1907, and Flora Wood, born July 26, 1909. The family residence is located on the corner of Seventh street and Fifth avenue. They are attendants of the Congregational church. Mrs. Herbert P. Leach was born March 22, 1873, to Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Wood, of Minneapolis. The father died in Faribault, March, 1906. His wife is still living.

**William F. Lynch**, senior member of the firm of Lynch Brothers, has always lived in Faribault, Minn., where he was born, November 3, 1868, and where he received his education



and grew up. His parents, M. R. and Cecelia (Armstrong) Lynch, natives of Canada and New York, respectively, in 1865 settled at Faribault and took charge of the Traveler's Home, which the father purchased. About 1871 he was elected street commissioner and filled that office sixteen years, after which he resumed his trade as a mason, which he followed till his retirement from business. The mother died in 1904. After finishing his schooling our subject, at the age of sixteen, entered the employ of The Cavanaugh & Co. Hardware Company, at Faribault, as a clerk, and remained with that company twenty-five years, becoming familiar with every detail pertaining to or connected with that line of trade. In 1909 he formed a partnership with his brother, John A. Lynch, and since that time, under the name of Lynch Brothers, has conducted a successful business, both dealing in plumbing supplies and all kinds of heating apparatus, and executing all manner of contract work relating to the plumbing trade and heating appliances. Mr. Lynch has devoted his attention closely to his business and has found little leisure for other things. He is identified with the Knights of Columbus and also holds membership in the Catholic Order of Foresters. In politics he holds independent views and casts his ballot regardless of party affiliations. In religious matters he and his family are connected with the Church of the Sacred Heart at Faribault. On September 2, 1903, Mr. Lynch married Ernestine Payant, whose parents, Joseph and Georgiana Payant, are natives of Canada, whence they removed to Faribault, where they now live. The father is a carpenter by trade. Mr. and Mrs. Lynch have four children, named in the order of their birth: Francis A., William, Richard and Catherine.

**Burt Lockerby** is a native of Minnesota and was born on July 1, 1869, at Northfield, Rice county. His parents, Oscar and Genette (Tanner) Lockerby, are both natives of New York. The father went to Michigan in 1855 and for a short time engaged in farming, and removed thence to Rice county, Minnesota, settling on a farm at Northfield. He afterwards engaged in the livery business and for two years served as sheriff of Rice county. Selling his livery business, he went to Dakota and there served as deputy sheriff, and later returned to Northfield, where he and his wife now reside—1910.

Our subject grew up in his native place, and after finishing his schooling in the common and high schools learned the metal worker's trade at Northfield. On attaining his majority he entered the employ of A. L. Carnfell, for whom he worked ten years, being foreman of the shop. He then worked two years with Mr. John Cassidy at Faribault, and later was eight



years foreman in the works of Devereux & Donohue, after which he established himself in the business to which he has since devoted his attention, and in which he has achieved success. Mr. Lockerby is active in fraternal and benevolent organizations, being identified with the B. P. O. E., the Maccabees and the Yeomen, and also belongs to the Commercial Club of Faribault. In politics he adheres to Democratic principles, and in religious faith is an Episcopalian.

On July 13, 1894, Mr. Lockerby married Emma Joachim, whose parents came from Belgium, their native place, about 1876, and settled on a farm in Rice county. Mr. and Mrs. Lockerby have two children, Florence M. and Marguerite E.

**G. C. Lindenberg and William H. Lindenberg**, owners of the prosperous, up-to-date clothing house of Faribault, Minn., that bears their name, are both natives of that city, the first named born March 21, 1870, and William H., April 5, 1872. Their parents, John and Minnie (Hohn) Lindenberg, came from Germany in 1864 and settled at Faribault, and in 1871 moved onto a farm which the father purchased and where he has since lived with his wife engaged in general farming. Both of the sons acquired their education in the public schools, and in the German parochial school in their native city. At the age of fifteen years the elder brother began clerking in the clothing house of Kollmann & Vogel, and remained there five years. In 1891 he went to Montana, and during the following five years was employed clerking for various houses in different places. From 1896 till 1901 he clerked in Weinfeld Brothers' clothing store, and since March 23 of the year last named has been one of the proprietors of Lindenberg Brothers' Clothing House. He is a Republican in politics, but has never held or sought any official position. On November 2, 1893, he married Emelia A. Budde, whose parents, William and Louise (Petri) Budde, came from Germany, their native land, and settled at Faribault, where the father followed his trade as a cabinet maker. He died in 1905 and his decease was followed by that of his widow in 1906. Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Lindenberg have four children, named in the order of their births, Alma M., Herbert W., Luther L. and Elmer W. The younger of these brothers, William H., after leaving school, clerked in a grocery store till 1898, and then for four years was in the grocery trade as senior member of the firm of Lindenberg & Roell, at Faribault. In 1902 he sold his grocery business and turned his attention to the clothing trade, organizing and establishing with his brother the clothing business they have since conducted with success. The business is incorporated under the laws of Minnesota. Mr. William H. Lindenberg is now—1910—serving his second term

as city treasurer. He is a Republican and a member of the German Lutheran church. In September, 1895, he married Ernestine Rudolph, who died in 1904, leaving two children, viz.: Lydia E. and Irving C. In April, 1907, Mr. Lindenberg married Margaret, daughter of Frederick and Frederica Malkmen (Schwake), who came from Germany to this country, and are both now deceased, the mother dying in 1903 and the father in 1905.

**Charles Warren Lyman**, of the firm of Weeks & Lyman, dealers in agricultural implements and seeds, is a native son of this township, having been born April 30, 1864. He received his earlier education in the district schools of Northfield, and had the advantages of four terms at Carlton College. After this he remained at home until twenty-six years of age, when, in 1890, he entered into partnership with F. E. Weeks and purchased the agricultural implement business formerly conducted by John A. Carls, now deceased, the firm now being known as Weeks & Lyman. This concern does a large business and carries a full line, enjoying the confidence of the residents of Rice and Dakota counties. In addition to this Mr. Lyman is the honored treasurer of the Northfield Farmers' Creamery Company. His real estate holdings consist of a third interest in the old homestead property. Mr. Lyman is a Republican in politics, and belongs to the Northfield Lodge, No. 50, I. O. O. F., and the Equitable Fraternal Union. The family faith is that of the Methodist church. Mr. Lyman was married October 10, 1893, to Carrie M. Gould, born in Bridgeport, Conn., daughter of Nathan and Caroline (Hurd) Gould, both natives of Connecticut. To Charles W. and Carrie (Gould) Lyman were born four children. Two died in infancy. Stanley G., born August 15, 1894, died January 1, 1903. Verna Louise was born October 20, 1898. Mrs. Carrie Lyman died August 25, 1901. Mr. Lyman was again married August 16, 1905, to Louise May Van Slyke, born at Castle Rock, Dakota county, a daughter of V. G. and Ann (Clague) Van Slyke, both of whom were descended from the families of early settlers. Charles W. and Louise May Lyman have one child, Florence Isabella, born June 29, 1907. Another child died in infancy. Charles Wells Lyman, father of Charles Warren Lyman, was born in Wilbraham, Mass., July 10, 1830. He came to St. Anthony, Minn. (now Minneapolis, Minn.), in 1855, and after being employed there for a time returned to New York and was married. In 1857 he again came to Minnesota and two years later pre-empted 160 acres in Northfield township, where he lived until 1893, when he moved into the city of Northfield, and lived there until his death, June 15, 1906. He was married

in New York, February 24, 1857, to Martha Deming, born in Avon, Genesee county, New York, May 17, 1835. She now lives in Northfield. To Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wells Lyman were born seven children, five of whom are living: George D., Charles Warren, Bertha Louise, Edgar S. and Henry C., all living in Northfield township or Northfield city.

**Richard J. Lieb**, successful merchant of Faribault, is one of the early pioneers, having lived in this city since 1859. He was born in France, February 5, 1842, of German parentage, and was brought by his father and mother to America the year that Napoleon declared himself emperor of France. He received his education in the schools of Beloit, Wis., where his parents settled. In 1859 he came to Minnesota in an immigrant wagon, and since that date has continued to reside here, becoming one of the city's influential citizens. For a time he engaged in custom shoe making and this business gradually developed into a retail boot and shoe trade, in which his energy, hard work and ability have been rewarded. In addition to this business Mr. Lieb buys and sells hides, furs and wools. He is independent in politics and is interested in all public movements. Fraternally he affiliates with the Catholic Order of Foresters. Mr. Lieb was married April, 1866, to Catherine Palace, a native of New Brunswick. This union has been blessed with four children: Eugene, Alice, Albert and Loretta. The family residence is at the corner of Third avenue and Division street. Philip and Mary Lieb, parents of Richard J. Lieb, were born at Frankfort-on-the-Rhine, Germany, and moved to France, coming to America later and settling in Beloit, Wis. They came to Faribault in 1865. Both are now deceased.

**John Law**, now deceased, was a man of kindly character and generous disposition, having at heart the interests of his community and his fellow men. His residence in Minnesota dated from 1858, the date of the birth of the state. He took a part in the development and growth of the county, and, being interested in education, served for a number of years on the school board. John Law was born in Waulockhead, Dumfriesshire, Scotland, March 5, 1842. He came to Sciota township, Minnesota, in 1856 with his parents and remained at home until his marriage, in 1874, in the meantime, in 1863, having purchased a farm in Northfield. For many years he successfully conducted general farming on 260 acres of good land. Being of a social nature, he associated himself with the A. O. U. W., in which he was a prominent member. He was married September 22, 1874, to Ann E. Beckstead, born near Montreal, Canada, August 5, 1855, and to this union were born four children: George A., born October 10, 1875; Alva W., born February 16, 1877; Willis,

born June 7, 1878, and died September 10, 1878, and Mabel A., born June 17, 1881. An adopted daughter, Pearl, was born April 6, 1887, and married Stephen Goff, May 4, 1909. She only lived five months after marriage, and died October 4, 1909.

George and Isabel (Carlow) Law, parents of John Law, were born in Dumfriesshire, Scotland, in 1811, and February 28, 1820, respectively. They were married September 4, 1835, and were the parents of ten children, eight of whom were born in Scotland. The children were: James, August 6, 1836; Jane, born April 18, 1838, and married to Thomas Lorimar; Margaret, born April 23, 1840, and died March 29, 1842; John, the subject of this sketch; Margaret (second), born April 23, 1844, and died May 28, 1845; Ebenezer, born March 5, 1847; Archibald, born February 20, 1851, and died November 9, 1901; Walter, born July 4, 1855; Agnes, born September 4, 1859, married to Reuben Taylor, and George, born October 16, 1862. George Law, the father, brought his family to America and located in Sciota township, Dakota county, Minn., July 3, 1858, settling on a farm which had been pre-empted by his son James in 1855. He spent the remainder of his days here, passing away December 16, 1871. The mother lived until July 9, 1897. Isiah and Cornelia (Redick) Beckstead, parents of Mrs. Law, were born in Canada, June 7, 1833, and November 11, 1836, respectively. They were the parents of nine children, all of whom are living. They are: Mrs. Ann Law; Josephine E. Beckstead; Mrs. Edith Plantz, of St. Paul; George Beckstead, of White Bear Lake, Minn.; Mrs. Marietta Grant, of Northfield; William, of Hibbing, Minn.; Mrs. George Heberlee, of Cambridge, Minn.; Lilie, of Northfield; Mrs. Le Roy Carlaw, of Northfield. Mr. Beckstead brought his family to Minnesota in 1869 and purchased a farm in Waterford township, Dakota county, where he continued farming until his death, in 1894, his wife living until May 1, 1909.

**Nicholas Lamberty**, up-to-date farmer, has made a success of agricultural operations and is well liked by his neighbors, who often seek his advice upon business matters. He was born in Wisconsin, January 7, 1848, attended the common schools and remained at home until 1867, when he commenced farm work for others. About two years later he went to northern Michigan, and did various work, part of the time driving a team of his own, a venture which netted him considerable pecuniary profit. He returned from the Superior region in 1874 and subsequently purchased a farm in Dane county, where he lived until 1892, when he came to Northfield, Minn., and bought a farm of 160 acres, just outside the city limits, which he still owns. He has since purchased 160 acres inside the city limits,



making in all 320 acres of highly improved land. He also owns three farms of 160 acres each in Sargent county, North Dakota, and in addition to all this owns a pleasant home at 906 East Fourth street, Northfield, with twelve city lots adjoining. Mr. Lamberty is a partner in the M. & F. Elevator, and a director in the same, having at one time served as treasurer. He also owns shares in the creamery and is a director in the Farmers' Store. He and his family attend the Catholic church, worshipping at St. Dominick's. Mr. Lamberty was married July 22, 1873, to Elizabeth Burr, born in Onondaga county, New York, June 7, 1853, a daughter of Peter and Emma (Ebb) Burr, both natives of Germany. They came to America when young. Peter Burr was killed in New York state by a tree falling on him. Mrs. Burr died in Northfield, June 21, 1909. Mr. Lamberty and his wife have had four children: Emma H., born April 29, 1874, married to Fred Festler, of Northfield township; Peter J., born in Wisconsin, August 16, 1876, married to Miss Clara Fleigel, of Faribault, November 13, 1906; Albin H., born May 7, 1889, married to Miss Mamie Friesen, of Faribault, June 3, 1908; Raymond I., born in Wisconsin, February 10, 1888. The parents of Nicholas Lamberty were Paul and Lina (Sleck) Lamberty, both natives of Germany. They came to Wisconsin in 1845 and settled on a farm, where they lived for many years. The mother died in Wisconsin, and subsequently the father came to Minnesota, where he died, December 31, 1890, buried on January 3, 1891, from St. Dominick's church, Northfield, Minn.

**L. Lockwood** was born in New York state, January 25, 1859. He is a son of Mayland M. and Lucy (Portman) Lockwood. The father and mother were both natives of New York. A farmer by occupation, he came to Minnesota in 1863 and located at Dundas, where he took up a claim, cleared the land and farmed for about three years. He then moved to Forest township, where he bought a farm, on which he did general farming until his death, in 1894. The mother died in 1900. Mr. Lockwood attended the district school in Forest township, and after leaving school he worked with his father on the farm until he was married. He bought a farm in Section 13, on which he has carried on general farming up to the present time. He was married in 1871, to Rebecca Gates, daughter of James N. and Ann (Tucker) Gates, the father being a native of Ohio and the mother of Indiana. They came to Minnesota in 1855 and located at Little Prairie, Rice county, where he farmed for some time, then moved to Otter Tail county, where he lived the remainder of his life. He died while on a visit to his daughter, Mrs. Lockwood, in July, 1903; the mother died in 1902. Eight children blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lockwood: Mittie,



born August 21, 1872, now at Eggleston; James B., born April 15, 1874, died in infancy; Bert L., born July 24, 1877, living at home; Harvey, born April 29, 1880, at Wells township; Theron A., born January 19, 1883; Lesley, born April 5, 1885, died June 1, 1886; Frank O., born August 9, 1887, and Mabel E., born April 30, 1893. Mr. Lockwood's father served in both the Indian and also in the Civil War, and Mrs. Lockwood's father also served in both the Indian and the Civil War. Mr. Lockwood is a Republican and a member of the M. E. church.

**Theodore Langeslag** is a prosperous farmer of Warsaw township, Rice county, Minnesota, who has risen to his position by patient, persevering work. He is a Hollander by birth, and was born October 16, 1875, to Peter and Johannah (Cipers) Langeslag, both natives of Holland. The father, a farmer by occupation, came to this country in 1889 and engaged in general farming at Faribault, where he still resides. The mother died in Holland in 1890, and the father married his second wife in 1899. Theodore acquired his schooling in his native land and then followed farming there till 1893, when he joined his father at Faribault, and lived with him some four years. In 1897 he rented the farm where he now lives—180 acres in Warsaw township—and cultivated it under lease for eight or nine years, and in 1906 purchased it. He had little to begin with save his own abilities and a determination to succeed, but worked hard, and economized and saved, with the result that he now—1910—owns one of the finest and most productive farms in his section of the county, finely improved, well cultivated, where, besides general farming, he carries on dairying. The place is stocked with high grade Percheron horses, besides a valuable herd of blooded cattle, and well equipped with all the necessary appliances of a model modern farm. In political sentiment Mr. Langeslag is a Republican, but takes no active part more than to perform his duties as a good citizen. He is financially interested in the Faribault Creamery and there finds a sale for his dairy products. With his family he is connected with the German Catholic church and society of Faribault. In September, 1899, Mr. Langeslag married Rickie, a daughter of John and Dora (Bogart) Donkers, both natives of Holland. Mr. and Mrs. Langeslag have five children, named in the order of birth: Anna Theodora, Dora Margaret, Peter Henry, Johannah, Theodore John.

**Michael Lynch** was the youngest of a family of seven children born to John and Eleanor Lynch, pioneer settlers of Rice county, Minnesota. Of the other children, named respectively in the order of their births, John, Mary (who was married to Mr. Bird), Melachi, Ann, Ellen and Margaret, the last named

is the only survivor. It was in the fall of 1853 that John Lynch, the father, in company with Henry Masters, with the view of settling and making a home, drove from the then site of the present city of St. Paul, and located a claim in Sections 23 and 24, Morristown township, due east of and near the present site of the village of that name, and there built a log cabin. Later he lost this claim through the foreclosure of a mortgage which he had placed on it, and in 1856 took up a claim in Section 14, same township, which became the family homestead, and where he and his wife spent their lives and reared their family. He was a sturdy, hard-working, far-sighted, thrifty farmer, who bravely faced all the hardships and privations of the strenuous pioneer days, and who, with his wife, lived to enjoy the well earned fruits of their labors. On his decease, in July, 1902, he left a large personal estate, besides 200 acres of valuable land, which descended to his then surviving children. Michael Lynch, whose decease occurred in 1910, always lived on the family homestead in Section 14, Morristown township, and owned at the time of his death 300 acres of land, which he leased in late years, having practically retired from active work. He also owned the Centennial Hotel in Morristown and other valuable property in Faribault. He died a bachelor and intestate.

**Stephen J. Leahey** is a prosperous and wide-awake citizen of Warsaw township, Rice county, Minnesota, who has attained his success through persevering hard work and economy. He was born at Shieldsville, Rice county, June 15, 1863. His parents, Richard and Elizabeth (O'Connor) Leahey, were natives of Ireland and Canada, respectively. The father came to this country in 1856 and was employed at St. Paul, Minn., first as foreman and then as superintendent some three years. In 1859 he settled on an 80-acre tract of timber land at Shieldsville, which he cleared and improved, being one of the first settlers there. He afterwards removed to Warsaw township, in Rice county and bought the place, which he improved and where he made his home till his death, April 22, 1894, and where the mother now resides. Stephen J. grew up on his father's farm and attended the district school, and on reaching his majority engaged in farming on his own account. In 1891 he, while on a prospecting trip through Dakota, bought a tract of 120 acres, which he improved and cultivated and on which he built a house and barn. Mr. Leahey also owns his homestead of eighty acres in Rice county, a beautiful place, finely improved, where he carries on dairy farming and raises high grade stock—short horn cattle, Poland-China hogs and registered horses, selling the products of his dairy to the Faribault Creamery, in which he holds an interest. He also is financially interested in the

Faribault Elevator Company; in organizing it he was a prime mover, has served as a director, and for four years was secretary and treasurer. He is a Democrat in politics, and in 1894 was elected a member of the board of county commissioners, serving eight years, five of which he was chairman. In religious faith he is a Catholic. On September 7, 1897, Mr. Leahey married Catherine, daughter of Charles and Louisa (Dougherty) McDonnell, natives of Canada, and Niagara county, New York, who, in 1866, settled on a farm at Deerfield, Steele county, Minnesota, where they are now living a retired life. Mr. and Mrs. Leahey have two children, named, respectively, Stephen J. and Alice R.

**J. Frank McCarthy**, a citizen of Faribault, Minn., is a native of that city, his date of birth being May 2, 1874. He received a good education in the parochial school of Faribault, and supplemented this with a complete course in St. Thomas' College, Marion Park. After his school days he went into the granite and marble business with his father, this line claiming his attention ever since, with the exception of one year spent in Phoenix, Ariz., in the retail oil business. He has also been a licensed embalmer since 1900, and is a member in good standing of the Funeral Directors' Association of Minnesota. Mr. McCarthy is a Democrat in politics, and has ably served his city as alderman from the Second ward for several years, being first elected in the spring of 1906 and re-elected in 1908. He is an ardent baseball enthusiast, in his youthful days having played twelve years on the diamond. Numerous benevolent and fraternal organizations claim him as a member: Knights of Columbus, Catholic Order of Foresters, Ancient Order of Hibernians, Modern Samaritans, Knights of Pythias, Royal Arcanum, B. P. O. E. and the Eagles. Is also identified with the Commercial Club. Mr. McCarthy held the office of assistant deputy county treasurer for three years. June 20, 1906, he was united in marriage at Faribault to Bessie E. Boynton, born to Mr. and Mrs. David Boynton, of Medford, Minn., August 18, 1879. Mr. and Mrs. McCarthy have a pleasant home at 320 Eighth street. They worship at the Catholic church. T. J. McCarthy, father of our subject, still resides at Faribault with his wife. Mrs. McCarthy's father died at Medford, in 1902. The mother survives him.

**James Robert Mee**, a prominent attorney of Faribault, was born in this city, April 12, 1868, son of Thomas and Emily I. (Davis) Mee, early settlers. He received his earlier education in the public schools and then attended the Shattuck School, after which he studied law in the office of G. W. Batchelder, and was admitted to the bar in 1890, taking up active practice in

1891. In the meantime he worked as civil engineer for the C., M. & St. P. railroad, as a purchaser for Donald Grant and as a collector for the Walter A. Wood Harvesting Machine Company. In 1892 and 1894 he served ably as county attorney and from 1902 to 1907 he demonstrated his ability in the position of city attorney. At one time he aspired to the position of railroad warehouse examiner. He is a member of the Masonic order and a popular member of the Commercial Club. Mr. Mee was married October 8, 1904, to Emma L. Gilmore, daughter of Albert Gilmore, a native of Massachusetts.

**Jorgan Madsen**, a native of Denmark, was born March 2, 1842. He acquired a good education in the public schools of Denmark and then enlisted in the standing army of his native country, serving in the war with Germany of 1864, and having some exciting and interesting experiences. Two years later, 1866, he left the Fatherland and came to America, locating in Cannon City township, Rice county, Minnesota, where he remained for fifteen months, doing farm work. He then removed to Faribault, where he was employed as a laborer, teamster, etc., for the next ten years. Mr. Madsen then bought a dray, and from a small beginning built up a large draying business, all through hard work and careful management. This business claimed his attention for ten years, when he launched a hack line, which he has conducted ever since with much success. In 1879 he returned to Denmark, having a very pleasant visit with the friends of his youth. His wife, Mrs. Karsten (Rasmussen) Madsen, whom he married August 28, 1869—she making the trip over to this country to marry him—accompanied him. They have an adopted daughter, Kasma Sophia, who lives at home with her parents at 1204 East avenue, North. Mr. Madsen is a Republican in politics, but has never aspired to office, other matters taking his time and attention. He has some property in St. Paul. The family hold to the faith of the Lutheran church. Matt Tomsen Madsen and Karsten (Eversen) Madsen, parents of our subject, were natives of Denmark and followed farming as an occupation all their lives. The father died in 1860 and the mother in 1871.

**Timothy J. McCarthy** was born in Ireland, January 13, 1848, coming to America with his parents at the age of five years. They located in Rice county, Minnesota, after a year in Dubuque county, Iowa, and here Timothy J. passed his boyhood, receiving his education in the district schools, supplemented with two terms in the Shattuck Military Academy of Faribault. After school he clerked in a general store for five years, then buying the business together with E. J. Haley and P. J. Moran. The other partners bought Moran's interest a year later, the



business being conducted under the name of McCarthy & Haley until 1876, when McCarthy withdrew. In 1884 he engaged in the marble and granite trade, which he has followed ever since with marked success. Mr. McCarthy also conducts a thoroughly equipped undertaking establishment. He has served as alderman of the First ward and as city treasurer. August 4, 1873, he was united in marriage with Anna C. Byrnes of Faribault, daughter of Patrick and Julia Byrnes, now deceased. Twelve children have blessed this marriage, ten of whom survive: Frank, an undertaker, married to Bessie Boynton; George, engaged in railroad work; Phelix, living at home; Fred, a bookkeeper in the Citizens' Bank; Albert and Clement, who live at home; Mary, now Mrs. F. J. Lenz; and Olive, Anna and Isabella, who live at home. Timothy J., Jr., died at the age of nineteen years. His brother Charles also died while young. John and Mary McCarthy, parents of our subject, were natives of Ireland. Emigrating to this country in 1853, they settled on a farm in Dubuque county, Iowa, where the father died a year later. The mother then removed to Rice county, together with a colony of other hardy pioneers, under the leadership of General Shields. They reached their destination in 1855, founding the town of Shieldsville. Mrs. McCarthy is now the wife of John Banks.

**Frank W. McKellip**, now serving as city engineer of Faribault, Minn., is a native son of that city, being born October 12, 1872. His early education was received in the public schools of his birthplace, being graduated from the local high school and later entered the electrical engineering department of the state university, receiving his diploma in 1898. After school his first practical experience was with the Minneapolis General Electric Company, with whom he remained two months, being compelled to give up his position and come home on account of sickness. He was then engaged as a bookkeeper in the Citizens' National Bank of Faribault for a short period, subsequently being connected with the Chicago Telephone Company for six months. In 1902 he removed to Mexico, acting as surveyor for the Kansas City, Mexico and Orient railway during the next fifteen months, after which he returned home and held the position of deputy county auditor for several months. Mr. McKellip now became connected with the Great Northern railroad as a surveyor, seeing active service in Montana and Nebraska the following three years and proving himself a thoroughly trained and capable engineer. In 1908 he again returned to Faribault and turned his attention to drafting. A year later he was elected city engineer, which office he still fills with credit to himself and the city. In politics he gives



allegiance to the Republican standards, and takes a keen interest in the welfare of the community. He is affiliated with the Masonic order, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Knights of Pythias, and is also a wide-awake member of the Live Topic Club and the Commercial Club. While in college he served as first lieutenant of the cadet battalion and had four more years of military experience in Company B, Second regiment of the Minnesota National Guard. In affairs of religion he inclines toward the tenets of the Congregational church. His residence is located at 623 Third street, South. Charles D. and Emily A. (Woodmas), parents of our subject, have been prominent in the business and social life of Faribault for many years.

**James P. McMahon**, who is serving his fifth year as city attorney of Faribault, Minn., his birthplace, was born May 23, 1866. He received his education in the public schools and at the Shattuck School of Faribault, Minn. He then took up the study of law in the offices of Mott & Gibson, being admitted to the bar three years later, November 12, 1887, and going to Hope, Steele county, North Dakota, where he followed his profession with much success till 1897, holding the office of county attorney four years. Mr. McMahon next removed to St. Paul, in which place he engaged in the practice of his profession until the death of his father, in 1900, when he came to Faribault, where he still enjoys the confidence and esteem of a large and growing clientele. His duties as city attorney also help to make him a very busy man. In politics the Republican party counts him a staunch supporter. Any enterprise tending for the good of his city, county or state is sure of his hearty co-operation. He is prominent in fraternal circles, being identified with the Independent Order of Foresters, the Modern Woodmen of America, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, E. F. U., the F. O. E. and the F. C. Club. The Catholic church also claims him as a member. Thomas and Bridget (Shanahan) McMahon, parents of James P., were natives of Ireland. Coming to America in 1854, they first located in Mt. Pleasant, Ia., three years later removing to Waseca county, Minnesota, where they homesteaded a quarter section, bravely enduring the hardships and perils of those pioneer days. One year later they came to Faribault, the father engaging in quarrying on what is now known as the Mankato quarries, a tract of ten acres. He sold this property, 1859, acquiring more land of the same kind, on which he carried on the quarrying of blue limestone until his death, December 12, 1900. His wife died March 10, 1904. They had a family of twelve children, three of whom died in infancy. Those now living are named, respec-

tively, in order of ages: Edward J., who was born January 10, 1858, practiced law in Hope, N. D., and Minneapolis, Minn., from the date of his admittance to the bar, 1882, till his decease, May 12, 1908. He served as first lieutenant of Company K, Fifteenth Minnesota Volunteers, during the Spanish War. Margaret, born November 16, 1860, is now Mrs. John Allen, of Aitkin, Minn.; Mary, born July 31, 1861, is married to O. A. Blethen, of Minneapolis; Katie, born March 17, 1863, who was the wife of Charles Leach, died March 18, 1899; the fifth child was our subject; Thomas J., born November, 1865, was a member of the bar, practicing in Hope, N. D., until his death, in July, 1901; W. F., born May 15, 1871, has his home in Minneapolis, being a traveling salesman for the Garr-Scott Company, of Richmond, Ind.; Theresa E., who was born September 19, 1873, is engaged as a housekeeper; Julia A., born February 19, 1875, is a department head of the Young-Quinlan Company, of Minneapolis.

**John Miller**, late of Northfield, interested himself largely in agricultural operations and in the business enterprises corollary to such pursuits. He was born in Morristown, N. Y., March 4, 1846, and there received his early schooling, remaining on the home farm until 1875, when he came west and settled in Waseca county, this state. In 1876 he came to Rice county and purchased a farm in Section 2, Northfield township, where he lived until the spring of 1905, when he moved to the city of Northfield. During the time when Mr. Miller was actively engaged in farming operations he made a specialty of raising high grade short horn stock. For over ten years he was president of the Dennison Elevator Company and for one year he served in a similar capacity with the Farmers' Elevator at Northfield. For a long period he was one of the directors in the Stanton Farmers' Creamery Company. A Republican in politics, he did his township distinguished service as chairman of the board of supervisors. Mr. Miller and his wife belong to the Congregational church, in which Mr. Miller was trustee for several terms. John Miller was married November 19, 1895, to Eva L. Couper, of Minnesota, a daughter of Judge J. C. and Harriet (Johnson) Couper. He died May 17, 1910. The parents of Mr. Miller were Archibald and Elizabeth (Couper) Miller, natives, respectively, of Scotland and of Morristown, N. Y. They were married in New York state and there spent the greater part of their years, the father dying in July, 1848, and the mother in July, 1872.

**Charles P. Manahan** was born in Wells township, Rice county, Minnesota, November 6, 1862, son of John and Ellen (Murphy) Manahan, who came from Ireland, their native

country, and who were among the first settlers of Wells township, settling on a claim which the father located in Section 1. The rude log cabin which they built for their first home here was afterwards replaced by a comfortable house, and other buildings and improvements were added, and the place, under the father's management, became one of the most productive farms in the township. He carried on general farming and was prosperous and thrifty and added to his first claim by the purchase of 200 acres at a later date. His death occurred in 1892 and that of his mother in 1902. Charles P. supplemented his common school education with a high school course, and after leaving school was some ten years engaged in teaching, in the meantime carrying on farming. He was instrumental in starting the Forest Creamery in 1896 and had the management of it some ten years, and in 1906 organized the Faribault Creamery, and managed same three years.

Mr. Manahan has served in some local offices, is independent in his political views and actions. In religious faith he, with his family, are connected with the Catholic church. He belongs to the Knights of Columbus.

Mr. Manahan, on May 2, 1894, married Miss Mary Dwyer, whose parents, William and Theresa (Keeley) Dwyer, were born in the United States, of Irish parents, and settled in Forest township, Rice county, Minnesota, where the father died, and the mother died later in Cannon City. Mr. and Mrs. Manahan have nine children, named in order of their birth: John, William (deceased), Charley, Frank, Irene, George, Raymond, Isidore, and Hellen M.

**George W. Murphy**, one of the enterprising business men of Faribault, Minn., was born at Beloit, Wis., October 3, 1852, and is the oldest of a family of seven children born to Richard and Catherine (Flemming) Murphy. The parents emigrated from Ireland, their native country, in 1848, and settled on a farm in New York. In 1850 they removed to Beloit, Wis., where the father was engaged as railroad contractor. In 1862 he settled on a farm in Section 1, Warsaw township, Rice county, Minnesota; in 1869 moved to Section 35, Wells township, and there reared his family and made his home till his death, which occurred February 23, 1904. The mother now—1910—lives in Faribault. George W. acquired his education in the Faribault schools and worked on the home farm till he attained his majority. He then opened a real estate office at Faribault, with Mr. John L. Cashell, which relationship continued some five years, when Mr. Cashell withdrew, moving to Grafton, N. D.; and since 1882 Mr. Murphy, remaining in the old office, has conducted a successful business in real estate.

mortgage loans and conveyancing. Mr. Murphy has been somewhat active in public affairs and served ten years as city recorder. He is a Democrat in politics and served three years as chairman of the county democratic committee. In religious faith he is a Catholic, and he is identified with the Knights of Columbus, the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Independent Order of Foresters. On June 2, 1881, Mr. Murphy married Miss Rosa V., a daughter of John and Catherine (Carling) Moran, who came from Ireland to Canada and lived there till 1869, then removed to Goodhue county, Minnesota, living there till 1873, whence they settled at Faribault, where they died; the father's death occurring October 30, 1874. Of four children born to Mr. and Mrs. Murphy, the eldest, Rosa M., is married to Mr. J. J. Mahoney, of Faribault. Catherine B. is the wife of Mr. A. J. Kilkenapp, and lives at Faribault; Mary Alice is a teacher at Carrington, N. D., and Frances, the youngest, lives at home. She is an alumna of the Faribault high school.

**William C. Meyer** was born in Germany, April 19, 1866. His father, Henry Meyer, was a weaver, which trade he followed until his death, in 1891. His mother, Katherine (Tatge) Meyer also died in Germany, in 1896. William C. commenced his education in a graded school in Germany. Not having the means of obtaining a regular education, Mr. Meyer started to follow the trade of his father. This he practiced for a year, when he again strove to obtain something better and different. The next year he went on a farm as a helper and continued the same until 1884, when he emigrated to America. Upon his arrival here Mr. Meyer located at Faribault, working as a common laborer during the summer months and attending English schools during the winter months. Tiring of this system of work, he hired out to a farmer by the year, laboring as a farm hand until 1892, when he purchased 160 acres of land in Section 14, Richland township. Upon this farm he made various necessary modern improvements and still continues general and dairy farming, making a specialty of raising Holstein cattle.

During the same year he was married to Elizabeth Meese, daughter of Ernest and Louisa (Rodewald) Meese. Mr. Meese was a native of Illinois and came to this state in 1864, locating at Wheeling, Rice county, where he engaged in farming until 1906, when he retired from active life and moved to Faribault, where he and Mrs. Meese (a native of Germany) still reside. Mr. and Mrs. Meyer have five children, namely: Lillian, Ernest, Oscar, Harry and Robert, all living at home with their parents. Mr. Meyer is very much interested in the public welfare of his community. He is a director of the school board, which office he has had since 1904. He is also town treasurer and treas-



urer of the Richland Creamery Association. His political sentiments are with the Republican party. His religious faith is with the Evangelical church.

**W. L. T. Meyer**, a farmer of Wheeling township, was born in Prussia, Germany, September 20, 1839, son of Louis and Doras Meyer, natives of Germany. The father, a farmer in his native country, was one of the early settlers in Minnesota. He emigrated from Germany in 1854, locating in Illinois; then the following spring—1855—he moved to Minnesota, locating in the town of Wheeling, Rice county, where he made a purchase of 160 acres of land in Section 29. After living here two or three days he went into the timber a short distance from the home and opened a road and never returned. His remains were found the following spring; how he met his death was never known. The family deprived of the father and protector, it devolved upon the son, William, to take charge and work the farm, which he continued to do until August 22, 1862, at which time he enlisted in Company B, Eighth Regiment Minnesota Volunteers, doing service in the Civil War until he was mustered out with honor, July 11, 1865. After the end of the war he returned to the farm, where he has remained ever since, carrying on general and diversified farming.

Our subject received his education in Germany. After leaving school he worked on a farm in the old country and came to America with his parents. In 1865 Mr. Meyer married Louisa, daughter of Fred and Mary Kicknake, natives of Germany, who came to America in 1853 and located in Illinois. They removed to Minnesota in 1855 and located in Section 20, in the township of Wheeling, Rice county, where he farmed until the time of his decease. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Meyer is blessed with eleven children, viz.: Emma, later Mrs. William Duke, now deceased; Gustaf, who is married, lives in California; Minnie, now Mrs. Charles Kiel, a farmer in Wheeling township; William, deceased; Frank is married and works the farm for his father; Rudolph lives in California; Ida, deceased; John and Eddie both reside at Faribault; Lawrence resides in Kenyon, and Clara, deceased. Mr. Meyer affiliates with the Republican party, but has never sought the responsibility of any office. He, with his family, belong to the German Evangelical church. He has filled local offices in his community, has served on the town board about twenty years and also on the school board.

**John Jacob Miller** is a prosperous and influential farmer and stock breeder of Morristown township, Rice county, Minnesota. His model farm of 200 acres in Section 27, with its complete equipment of modern appliances its remodeled, up-to-date



barns, silos, granaries, cribs, sheds, garage and commodious farmhouse, its splendid herd of thoroughbred black and white high grade registered Holstein-Frisian cattle and its herd of Poland-China swine, and fine Belgian horses, all of the proprietor's own breeding and raising, and its bountiful yield of the various grains, hay and other products, is one of the beauty spots of Rice county. Mr. Miller was born in Rice county, in 1864, and is one of a family of seven sons, five of whom are living, and two daughters born to John Jacob Miller, the other children being Louise, the wife of Mr. Richard Christian, and Lena, the wife of F. K. Miller, both residents of Orlanville, Minn.; Henry, who lives in Faribault; William, of Chicago; and Aaron and Samuel R., of Morristown. The father was among the pioneer settlers of Lesueur county, Minnesota, prior to the Indian uprising and passed through that terrible ordeal. He subsequently settled on the northwest quarter of Section 2, in Warsaw township, Rice county, which he subdued and improved and where he made his home and reared his family. His death occurred about 1899. Our subject acquired his education in the district schools and on attaining his majority went to Lac-Qui-Parle county, where he bought a claim, and lived till his return to Morristown. While in Lac-Qui-Parle county he served in various local offices. Besides looking after his vast farming interests Mr. Miller is largely engaged in other affairs and is president of the Morristown Creamery and the Morristown Telephone Company. In politics he is a Republican. Mr. Miller married Cecilia Von Escher, of Morristown, and they have six children, named, respectively: Jesse, Pearl, John, Daisy, Bessie and Donald.

**Aaron E. Miller**, a brother of John J. and senior member of the firm of Miller Brothers & Company, hardware dealers of Morristown, was born in Rice county, February 7, 1867. He spent his boyhood in Warsaw township and there attended the public schools. Subsequently he spent fourteen years farming in Lac-Qui-Parle county and then returned and engaged in the hardware trade with his brother-in-law, L. F. Von Escher, and his brother, S. R. Miller. He is a trustee of the German Evangelical church, of Morristown. He married Emma Von Escher, and they have two children, Gladys and Ralph.

**Samuel R. Miller**, the third member of the firm of Miller Brothers & Co., was born on the old homestead in Warsaw township, September 24, 1872, and grew up and acquired his schooling there. He owned a fine farm in Waseca county, which he leased. He married Lillian, a daughter of Mr. John Bosshardt, of Morristown. He is a Free Mason and is treasurer of Cannon City Lodge, No. 52, of Morristown. He also

belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. The firm of Miller Brothers & Co., besides dealing in all kinds of light and heavy hardware, carry a complete line of farm implements and machinery, and conduct an extensive and growing trade in their up-to-date store.

**Joseph Meillier**, successful and prosperous farmer of Wells township, Rice county, Minnesota, was born in France, November 20, 1858. His parents, Alexander and Louise (Sleige) Meillier, came from France, their native land, in 1865, and settled on a farm near Faribault, where the father died in 1870. The mother returned to her native land in 1907 and now lives there. Joseph acquired his education in France, and after leaving school turned his attention to farming. He came to Minnesota in 1881 and farmed two years, and in 1883 went to Winneshiek county, Iowa, where he purchased twenty acres of land, where he lived eleven years, returning to Rice county, Minnesota, in 1894, and bought eighty acres of land in Wells township, to which he added another eighty acres. He carries on general farming and dairying, selling the product to the Faribault Creamery, in which he is financially interested. The place is finely improved and stocked with a splendid herd of short horn cattle. He is also interested in the Faribault Elevator. Mr. and Mrs. Meillier have three children, named in the order of their birth: Mary, Joseph B. and Eva. The family is affiliated with the Catholic Church in religious faith. In politics Mr. Meillier is a Republican, but has never held any office. He was in the military service seven years before leaving his native land.

**Paul Michael** is a farmer who has made his way in the world by faithful work, perseverance, and economy. He is a native of Wisconsin, and was born December 13, 1860, to Frederick and Louise (Vinkleman) Michael, who emigrated from the Fatherland and settled on a farm in Wisconsin in 1855. They removed thence to Le Sueur county, Minnesota, and from there to Warsaw township, Rice county, in 1879, and settled on a farm which became the family homestead. Here the father met an untimely death on May 27, 1887, through an accident while working in a well, a son also losing his life at the same time. The mother continued to live on the home farm until her decease, in 18—. Paul attended the district schools and later studied two years in the State school. After his father's death he took charge of the home farm, and later leased it two years.

In 1894 Mr. Michael purchased the farm of 180 acres which he now owns, and began its improvement and development. Besides general farming, he has given special attention to dairying, and has a splendid herd of Durham cattle. He has also given much attention to breeding fine farm horses, formerly

raising the Belgians, but later changing to the Percheron, and keeps a fine registered stallion. Mr. Michael has always taken an interest in the affairs of his community, and has filled local offices, such as school director, treasurer, etc. He is a Republican in his political beliefs, and in religious faith is affiliated with the Baptist denomination. On December 7, 1892, Mr. Michael married Miss Winnie, daughter of Fred Becker, who came from Germany, their native land, and settled on a farm in Waseca county, Minnesota. The father died and the mother afterwards lived with our subject and his family and died in 1906. Mr. and Mrs. Michael have five children, named, respectively, Raymond, Salva, Ethel, Lilly and Harold.

**Jacques Mueller**, a retired farmer of Morristown, Rice county, Minn., is a worthy example of the self-made, successful man who makes his way by persevering hard work. He was born in Alsace, Germany, January 15, 1849, a son of Michael Mueller, and there learned the mason's trade. In 1873 he came to the United States, and worked at his trade in Sullivan county, New York, three years. In 1877 he went to Faribault, Minn., and in his search for work, walking from place to place, came to Morristown and secured a job plastering the farmhouse of John Molin, and thereafter had no difficulty in getting work. He settled on an eighty-acre tract in Morristown township, which he bought for \$700, in the fall of 1878, and built a rude log cabin, sixteen by twenty-four feet in dimensions. This land was located in section 15, and was covered with timber, basswood, oak, elm and maple, which he cleared off from year to year, grubbing by hand at first and later with the aid of an ox team, and fitting it for cultivation. He borrowed the money with which to buy the farm from John Sauffer, from whom he also bought a cow. In these early days, full of privation and hardships, he drove to church on Sunday, taking his wife and children, and made the most of what he had, and patiently plodded, hoping for better things. Later he bought a span of horses, borrowing the money, \$175, from William Crawford, now deceased, to pay for them. He cut his hay with the scythe and cradled his grain and raked and bound it by hand, and, in fact, did all his work in the primitive fashion of pioneer days. While his family were growing up, he kept a hired man to help in the farm work, and himself worked at his trade much of the time, and among other things built numerous stone culverts and bridges. He built the bridge near the old Hershey grist mill, also built three bridges across Devil lake, on the county line, and another near Waseca. By good management, economy and thrift, Mr. Mueller was able to improve his land and add to his holdings from time to time. He now owns 120 acres, all under

cultivation, except eighteen acres reserved for timber, and with its fine buildings and substantial brick dwelling and modern and up-to-date conveniences, it ranks with the best farms in the township. Mr. Mueller has practically retired from active work, the farm being carried on by his son, John, who has it stocked with a fine herd of Durham cattle, splendid horses of his own breeding and raising, and high grade swine. In 1873, at Brooklyn, N. Y., Mr. Mueller married Caroline Gieher, a native of Alsace, Germany. Of eight children born to them, the eldest died in young womanhood; Jacob, the second child, lost his life in a cyclone near Morristown; Maggie, the third child, is married to George Scheffman, Jr. These three were born in New York. Louis, the fourth child, is married to Fred Neabaur; Katie lives with her parents; John lives on the old homestead; Dora lives at home, and Clara is a school teacher. The family are all loyal members of the German Lutheran Church. Mr. Mueller has served in various local offices, and in 1910 was elected a member of the village council of Morristown. He holds independent views in politics and casts his ballot for the candidate whom he thinks best qualified to fill the office sought, regardless of party affiliations.

**Frank Merat**, a native of Switzerland, was born February 24, 1855. He passed his boyhood and received his education in the Fatherland, coming to America with his mother at the age of twenty (his father having died), and locating at Faribault, Minn., where he was engaged in various labor till 1878, when he purchased an eighty-acre farm in Wells township, which he worked for the next three years. He then sold out and bought a 160-acre tract in South Prairie, where he followed general diversified farming for the next six years. Then he moved to St. Augustine county, California, where he acted as foreman of a 500-acre fruit farm, owned by D. M. Dalmas, which he handled very successfully and gave entire satisfaction to his employer the ten years he was in charge. Afterwards he returned to Rice county, acquiring a thirty-five-acre farm in Walcott township, which claimed his attention for the next four years. Mr. Merat then moved to Faribault, where he purchased an eleven-acre tract, on which he erected his present residence. He also owns eighty-three acres of land near Cannon City. In political principles he is independent of any party, always voting for the man he believes best qualified for the office. In religious faith he is a follower of the Catholic Church. February 24, 1902, he was united in marriage with Janette Portier. They have no children.

**H. A. Mueller** is one of the substantial farmers and breeders of Holstein-Friesian cattle of Wheeling township, prominently



identified with public affairs of Wheeling. He was born in Wheeling township, Rice county, April 30, 1860, the son of William and Sophia (Schwake) Mueller, natives of Germany. The father is a farmer and emigrated to America in 1858, located in Illinois, remaining there a short time, and thence removed to Minnesota, and located in Rice county, township of Wheeling, where he took a claim, which he improved and engaged in general farming until his death, which occurred in 1868. The mother died in 1901. The subject of this sketch received his education in district schools of Wheeling township. After leaving school he worked for his step-father ten years; he then bought 160 acres in section 8, where he has carried on general farming up to the present time. On June 24, 1886, Mr. Mueller married Emma, daughter of William and Mary (Helberg) Grote, natives of Germany, who emigrated to America in the later forties. They located in Illinois, where they remained until 1858, at which time they came to Minnesota and located in Rice county, Wheeling township, where the father farmed until the time of his death, in 1871. The mother passed away in 1900. Mr. and Mrs. Mueller have ten children, viz.: Meta, William and Emma, who are all living at home; Henry died in 1908; Bertha and Mary both died in infancy; Selma, August, Ingebor and Dena, who are all living at home. Mr. Mueller favors the Republican party. In religious faith he is identified with St. John's Evangelical Church. The fact that Mr. Mueller has served as supervisor on the town board seven years, director of the school board for a number of years, and a road inspector, goes to show that he is well appreciated in his community. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers' Creamery at Nerstrand and the Farmers' Elevator at Faribault, and a member of the Holstein-Friesian Association of America.

**Charles W. Marks** was born in Saratoga county, New York, March 22, 1846. He was a son of Geo. W. and Phebe Jane (Smith) Marks, both natives of New York state, the father was a farmer. He came West in 1849 and rented a farm in Wisconsin; from there, in 1854, he came to Walcott, Rice county, Minn., and pre-empted 120 acres, upon which he did general farming up to the time of his death, in November, 1875. The mother died in 1904. Charles Marks was educated in the district schools of Minnesota and Wisconsin, and for one term attended the Seabury grammar school at Faribault. After leaving school he went back on the farm, where he worked until he enlisted in Company H, First Minnesota Mounted Rangers, under command of Captain Ruble. He was mustered out at Fort Snelling in November, 1863. He re-enlisted in Company H, Third Minnesota, February, 1864, at Jamson, and was mustered out Sep-



tember, 1865, at Duval's Bluff, Kan. After the war he returned to the farm, where he has continued to live up to the present time. He was married, October 23, 1875, to Phebe Jane Fish, a daughter of Samuel and Sarah A. (Carr) Fish, the father a native of England and the mother a native of Canada. Mr. Fish was a shoemaker by trade. He came to America and first located in Canada, and afterwards came to the States. He served in the Black Hawk War. In 1857 he located in Wisconsin, and in 1861 he moved to Minnesota and located at Minnesota Lake, where he remained until 1875. He then moved to Minneapolis, where he lived until 1889, and then moved on the farm with their daughter, Mrs. C. W. Marks, where they lived until their death, September 16, 1904. It was the prayer of Mr. Fish that both he and his wife should pass away at the same time. This prayer was granted, and both died on the same night and within two or three hours of each other. Mr. and Mrs. Fish had a family of ten children and two adopted children. One child has blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Marks, George Henry; he is now married and has one child. Mr. Marks is a Republican in his political views. He is a member of the Episcopal Church, and of Masonic Lodge, No. 9, of Faribault. He was elected treasurer of the school board in 1898 and served nine years. He is a stockholder in Wright Relationship League.

**William M. Meehl** was born in Pennsylvania, June 8, 1858. He is the son of Jacob and Henrietta (Peter) Meehl, natives of Germany. They came to America in 1846 and located in Pennsylvania. They remained there until 1863 and then moved to Minnesota, settling in Forest township, Rice county, where the father homesteaded eighty acres and later purchased 160 acres; here he carried on general farming until his death in 1887. The mother died in 1902. William M. Meehl attended the district school in Forest, and after leaving school worked on his father's farm. In 1880 he bought 267 acres, on which he has carried on general farming up to the present time. He was married in 1883 to Carolina Voss, a daughter of Henry Voss, a native of Germany, who emigrated to America and located in Forest township, where they now live. Ten children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Meehl: Edward, William, Arthur, Henry, Goodwin, Elizabeth, Anna and Theresa, twins, and Clara and Kora, also twins. In politics Mr. Meehl is a Republican, and a member of the Baptist Church. He has served on the town board of supervisors and is now serving on the school board. He is a stockholder in the Webster Co-operative Telephone Company, Faribault Co-operative Elevator Company, and the Montgomery Co-operative Store.

**D. A. McLean** was born in Canada, August 19, 1854. He is a son of Neil and Mary (Morgan) McLean, both natives of Canada, where they resided up to the time of the father's death. The mother died in the summer of 1909, at the age of eighty-nine years. Her father was captain of the dragoons when the rebels crossed the line at Prescott. Mr. McLean attended the public schools in Canada, and after leaving school he worked on his father's farm until he was eighteen years old, when he learned the blacksmith trade. In 1878 he came to Minnesota and located at Prairieville, Cannon City township, Rice county, Minn., where he purchased the blacksmith shop of Charles Edwards, and has continued in that business up to the present time. He was married, on December 24, 1883, to Minnie Orcutt, daughter of Edward B. and Sylvia Orcutt. They have no children. Mr. McLean was one of a family of eight children. His brother George died when very young. Janett married James Whitehead and resided in Canada until her death, James residing in Canada; Katherine, now Mrs. Mark Ezard, of Canada; Emma, now Mrs. Walter Adams, of Iowa; Mary, now Mrs. Collon McDonald, of Canada, and Agnes, also of Canada. In politics he is a Republican, and is at the present clerk of the town board of Cannon City, and has held the position for the past four years. He is also treasurer of school district No. 8, and is a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator of Faribault. He is a member of the Baptist Church.

**John H. Mather**, proprietor of Orchard Hill farm, was born in Wisconsin, March 19, 1857, to John and Mary (Bedent) Mather, the former a native of Massachusetts and the latter of New York. The father, a carpenter by trade, moved to Wisconsin in 1847, and settled on a farm, and nine years later, in 1856, came to Richland township, Rice county, Minn., and pre-empted 160 acres in section 26, which he subdued and improved, and where he made his home. Later he sold his first purchase and bought in section 27. He carried on general farming and was prosperous and thrifty at the time of his decease, in 1875; he had 480 acres. The mother still survives. John H. acquired a common and high school education, and grew to manhood on the home farm, teaching district schools in Rice county several terms. A few years after his father's death he assumed the management of the home farm. In 1878 he came into possession of 160 acres in section 23, in Richland township, and there engaged in general farming. This he afterwards sold, and now owns 230 acres located in section 13, Warsaw township, and section 18, Walcott township. The farm is finely improved and well situated for general farming and dairying purposes, in which its proprietor is eminently successful. In July, 1879, Mr. Mather

married Miss Anna B., a daughter of George W. and Sophia (**Bradford**) Fanning, natives of Illinois and Indiana, respectively. They settled on a farm in Wabasha county, Minnesota, about 1857, and removed thence, in 1869, to Richland township, Rice county. Mr. and Mrs. Mather have nine children: Walter A., who lives at home; Pearl, who is married to Mr. A. E. Achterkirch, and lives at Artesia, N. M.; Sophia M., the wife of Mr. Walter Sanford, of Warsaw township; William E., who lives in Washington, and Mary E., Ruby M., Milton G., and Arthur J. and Lester, twins, all of whom live at home. Mr. Mather has served in various local offices and is held a leading man in his community. He is a Republican in politics and a loyal member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Mather died October 28, 1905.

**George Molen**, an honored citizen of Morristown, Rice county, Minn., is of the seventh generation in direct ancestral line from Andreas Magnus Molen, who was born in the village of Molen, near Limbiden, Sweden, in 1623, and who married Anna Laemd, a native of Coburg. He was a shoemaker by trade and died May 12, 1687. His son, Conrad Molen, also a shoemaker, was born at Siewitz, August 18, 1662, and married Anna Shiller, of Fribitz. Their son, George Molen, was born June 28, 1687, at Siewitz, was a shoemaker, and married Barbara Ott, of Turkendorf. They had a son, Otilie Molen, born April 4, 1733. Carl Erdman Molen, of the fifth generation from Andreas Magnus, was born October 6, 1790, at Siewitz, and settled at Crenssen, where he followed his trade as a shoemaker. He married Barbara Elisabetha Bandrich, of Wiedenburg, about 1818, and they had a family of eight children, the youngest of whom, Johann Wolfgang, our subject's father, was born at Crenssen, March 2, 1828. He married Elizabeth Eidelhausen, who was born October 28, 1828, and whose death occurred May 4, 1896, at Morristown, Minn., whither Johann brought his family in 1866, and where he followed shoemaking till 1878. The following year he settled on a farm on the present site of Big Stone City, S. D., but some four years later sold his claim for \$5,000, and, returning to Morristown township, settled on a sixty-acre tract adjoining the village. While a resident in Morristown, he, in 1875, erected the building at the corner of Main and Division streets, now occupied as a drug store, and also his residence west of it. In this store he conducted a grocery trade as a partner with Jonathan P. Temple. In 1873 he served on the school board. He was a Democrat in political faith and active in the state and county affairs of his party. He was a member of Cannon River Lodge, No. 52, Free and Accepted Masons, of Morristown. Of six children born to him and his wife, Eliza-

beth, the eldest, Erdman, born November 23, 1851, died August 14, 1861; John D., born March 26, 1853, died April 9, 1861; Henry Sophia, the fourth child, born December 4, 1858, is married to William W. Downey, editor of "Advance Herald," and lives at Milbank, S. D.; John Fredrick was born September 13, 1861, and Joseph Howard, the youngest, was born June 6, 1874. Our subject, the third child of this family in order of birth, was born January 8, 1856, in Wayne county, Pennsylvania, and there received his principal schooling, though he attended school a term or two after the family settled at Morristown. When thirteen years of age, he learned the shoemaker's trade, and at the age of eighteen opened a harness shop in a building on the present site of the State Bank. Mr. Molen turned his attention to general farming in 1880, securing a tract of 120 acres in section 23, Morristown township, which he improved and cultivated some nineteen years, but in 1899 engaged in the live-stock trade, and has shipped an average of more than 100 carloads of stock per year. For nine years he was in business with H. W. Donaldson, under the firm name of Molen & Donaldson. Mr. Molen has served on the town board of supervisors, as a director of the Morristown Creamery, and president of the Sanitary Association; and he is now a director of the State Bank of Morristown. He is an active Mason and served sixteen years as master of Cannon River Lodge, No. 52, of Morristown. On April 28, 1880, Mr. Molen married Cora, daughter of Elisha and Susan (Ramig) Spaulding, of Morristown, Minn., a woman of fine accomplishments and charming presence. They have two children: Harry, born in 1892, and Gay, born in 1896.

**H. B. Martin**, a leading citizen of Northfield, was born April 7, 1833, near St. Johns, in the Province of Quebec. His parents, Henry and Elizabeth (Drew) Martin, were of Irish lineage and spent their lives in Canada, the father being a farmer by occupation. The subject of this sketch acquired a common-school education in Canada, and there learned the stone mason and bricklayer's trade, and when a young man went to Vermont and followed his trade several years. In 1857 he came to Minnesota and lived four years at Hastings, in Dakota county; then, after visiting his boyhood home, returned, and for two years lived at Faribault, subsequent to which he took up his residence at Northfield, where he has since made his home. Besides following his trade, Mr. Martin has done a vast amount of contract work and since 1895 has conducted a cement business at Northfield, still maintaining an office, but largely for the purpose of occupying his time. Since settling at Northfield he has spent three years on contracts at Fergus Falls, where he built the Grand Hotel and numerous other buildings. At Northfield,



besides laying many of the city's sidewalks, he has had charge of the construction of many large buildings. Mr. Martin has dealt somewhat extensively in real estate, and at one time owned large tracts of land in Otter Tail county, where he still retains a farm. He also has owned valuable properties at Northfield, and now has a fine home. Though not a regularly enlisted soldier, Mr. Martin, in the early days, served with the organized troops on the frontier against the Indians, acting as first sergeant and adjutant of the first company to reach Ft. Ridgely after the uprising of 1862. In his home city he is known as a public-spirited citizen, and has served as a member of the city council, and served two terms in the legislature—seventy-third to seventy-fourth and seventy-fourth to seventy-fifth. He is a Democrat in politics, an honored member of the Masonic order, and in his religious affiliations is an Episcopalian. In November, 1869, Mr. Martin married Mary J. Henderson, whose father, William Henderson, settled on a farm in Faribault in 1855, and died October 29, 1909, at the age of ninety-three years. Mr. and Mrs. Martin have two children, both of whom are alumni of Winona Normal School and attended Carlton College, teachers by profession. Gertrude is teaching in Montana, and Katharine in Seattle, Wash.

**Donald F. Munro** was born at Ingersoll, Ontario, February 28, 1855. After receiving his education in his native place, he came to Faribault at the age of twenty years, and started his career by learning the tailoring business. After some years, he established a plant of his own, which he still owns and conducts. Mr. Munro is a staunch Republican, and a high degree Mason, as well as a member of the Faribault Commercial Club.

**John C. Nutting**, president of the First National Bank, has been prominently identified with the financial and educational interests of this part of the county. He was born in Barnet, Vt., August 9, 1828, and there received his early education, remaining at home until 1853, when he went to California. He went by the Nicaraguan route, which in those days was very little traveled. For about a year he worked in the mines in Columbia, Tuolumne county, and after that he built and operated a lumber mill near Grass Valley, Cal. Subsequently he spent ten years in lumbering in that vicinity. In 1865 he returned to his old home in the East, came to Northfield on a visit in 1866, and in 1868 located here permanently as a financier, making a business of loaning money. When the First National Bank was organized, Mr. Nutting was one of the incorporators. He served as vice-president and in 1874 was elected to his present position as president. For many years Mr. Nutting has been one of the trustees of Carleton College and a member of the executive com-



mittee. He is also a member of Social Lodge, No. 48, A. F. & A. M., having taken his degree in Grass Valley, Cal., in 1862. September 26, 1870, the subject of this sketch was married to Calista J. Morse, born in Danville, Vt., October 1, 1838, a daughter of David W. and Laura W. (Dole) Morse. To Mr. and Mrs. Nutting have been born two children: Laura M., born November 8, 1873, and John D., born November 6, 1881.

The parents of John C. Nutting were Jonathan and Helen (Somers) Nutting, the former born in Francestown, N. H., and the latter near Glasgow, Scotland. They had three children: Mrs. Matthew Blair went from Hardwick, Vt., to San Francisco in 1861, and there ended her days. Mrs. Horace H. Bronson went from Hardwick, Vt., in 1874, to Oakland, Cal., and is now deceased. The third child and only son is the subject of this sketch. The mother died July 13, 1856, and the father February 5, 1879.

**Frank Nutting**, now living a retired life at Faribault, was born in Amherst, Mass., January 31, 1834, received his education in Amherst, Mass., and came west to St. Anthony in 1854. One year later he came to Rice county, and engaged in carpenter work. At the same time he took a claim of 160 acres, built a home and lived on the farm. Later he pre-empted 160 acres in Warsaw township, and then followed carpentering and farming until 1881, when he moved to Todd county, this state, and engaged in the milling business. In 1894 he came back to Faribault and became interested in the mercantile business with his son. In 1902 he went to the Sacramento valley, in California, and then again returned to Faribault in 1904. While in Todd county he was a justice of the peace and a township supervisor. He now owns forty acres in Todd county; a pleasant residence on Ninth avenue, South, Faribault, and also twelve fine building lots in the same city. Mr. Nutting was married March 20, 1858, at Faribault, to Sarah Jane Brown, of Granby, Mass. Six of the children are living: Frank B., of Clarissa, Todd county, this state; Arthur L., of Duluth; Harry A., of Winter, Wis.; John T., of Clarissa, Minn.; Albert L., of Minneapolis, and Ethel, married to Harry P. Rising, of San Diego, Cal.; Irving, Fred, Warren, Lizzie and Maude L. are dead. Maude L. was Mrs. Darwin J. Mott. She left four children: Genevieve, of Minneapolis; Hazel, now Mrs. Morton, of St. Paul, and Erma and Bessie, who live with the subject of this sketch.

**Elijah Graves Nutting**, Faribaelt manufacturer, was born in South Amherst, Mass., June 15, 1841, and came West with his parents at the age of thirteen years, in 1854. After completing his early education, he remained at home with his father until after he had attained his majority. He then went to Northamp-

ton, Mass., and secured a situation as patternmaker and millwright, remaining there until 1880, when he returned to Faribault and engaged in the mechanical business. In 1891 he and his son established the Nutting Truck Company, which has been successful from the start. The plant covers seven acres, and the output of platform trucks finds a ready market all over the United States. He is a director in the Citizens' National Bank of Faribault. Mr. Nutting was married November 19, 1867, to Emerette E. Pomeroy, of Southampton, Mass. Two children were born to them: Walter M., born February 14, 1874, secretary and treasurer of the Nutting Truck Company, and Bertha L., now deceased. The family faith is that of the Congregational Church. Truman Nutting and his wife, parents of Elijah Graves Nutting, were of New England birth. They came to Minnesota in the spring of 1854. In that year the mother died at St. Anthony's Falls, now Minneapolis. The father then came to Faribault, followed farming and manufacturing until his death, September 19, 1891.

**Walter M. Nutting**, son of Elijah G. and Emerette E. (Pomeroy) Nutting, was born in Florence, Mass., February 14, 1874. He came to Faribault with his parents in 1879, entered public school and graduated from the Faribault high school in 1892. After school he became partner in his father's business—that of manufacturing floor trucks—under the firm name of the Nutting Truck Company, which has grown to be one of the most important industries of the city. Mr. Nutting is interested in several other substantial business enterprises. He is a member of the Commercial and Automobile Clubs, and is active in all matters pertaining to the public good. Mr. Nutting was married March 2, 1899, to Ida M. Morris, born March 5, 1876, daughter of John Morris, Sr., deceased, of Faribault. Two children were born to them: Ada A., born November 2, 1904, and Ruth M., born February 22, 1908.

**George W. Nelson**, a substantial and successful farmer of Rice county, now retired, was born in Richland township, this county, July 31, 1865. He was reared on the farm, attended the public schools, and later was a pupil in the Central school, finishing with courses at the Shattuck school. After school days were over he remained on the farm, working with his father until 1889, when he took charge of the home place, which then consisted of 160 acres. His efforts prospered and by hard work and industry he added to his farm until he now owns 240 acres of rich land, the place being highly improved in every way. After his father's death, in 1907, Mr. Nelson came to Faribault and took up his abode on West Second street, where he now lives, engaged in looking after his real-estate interests. For some years Mr. Nel-

son was a supervisor in Richland township, and for a number of years he served as a member of the school board. In addition to his Rice county holdings, he also owns land in Iowa. Mr. Nelson was married in 1886 to Cora May Thompson, of Blue Earth county. To this union was born one daughter, Blanche W., a student at St. Mary's School. Mrs. Nelson died in 1890 and Mr. Nelson was married in 1893 to Sophia F. Ribstein, of Steele county. The two first born children of this union, twins, died in infancy. The third child is Marion E., now living at home. The family faith is that of the Methodist Episcopal Church. John and Mary W. (Wells) Nelson were the parents of George W. Nelson. The mother was born in Connecticut, and came to Minnesota in the fall of 1856, where she became the bride of John Nelson. The father was born in Pennsylvania and came to Minnesota in 1860, locating in Richland township, where he farmed until his death in 1907. The mother is still living.

**Thomas F. Newcombe**, a thrifty farmer of Richland township, was born in Cherry Valley, N. Y., November 21, 1844, to Ovando and Harriet Newcombe, who were natives of New York state. They came to Wisconsin in 1845 and located at Milford, Jefferson county, where they did general farming until his decease, which occurred February 3, 1886. The mother died November 6, 1891. Our subject acquired his education in the public schools of Wisconsin. Leaving school, he returned to the old homestead, where he remained until 1894, whence, on account of the ill health of their daughter Florence, they located in Cannon City, Rice county, where they farmed until 1907, when they moved on a farm in Richland township, where they now live. Mr. Newcombe was married June 24, 1879, to Jennie, daughter of Simon and Birdie (Connor) Healey, natives of England and Ireland, respectively, the father being a cousin of Robert Burns. They came to America and were married when very young. Mr. Healey enlisted in Company F, Twenty-ninth Regiment, in the Wisconsin volunteers, being in the service for three years. After the war he returned to Wisconsin, and about seven years later sold out and moved near Menominee, Wis., where he bought a small place, on which he lived until his death, which occurred August 24, 1902. The mother died January 11, 1897. Mrs. Newcombe was born in Rome, N. Y., October 19, 1856. In 1857 her parents came to Wisconsin and located in Aztalan, where they did general farming. She received her education in Wisconsin. After leaving school, she taught for several years, but owing to poor health she gave up teaching and stayed with her parents until her marriage to Mr. Newcombe. There were four children born to this union, viz.: Florence, born January

26, 1881, and died October 16, 1897; Eolah, born June 19, 1884, now Mrs. Oliver Strunk, of Spokane, Wash.; Sumner, born 1887, who lives at home; David, born October 16, 1885, also lives at home. Mr. Newcombe affiliates with the Democratic party. He with his family belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Newcombe is a member of the Woman's Relief Corps, in which she is a very prominent worker. She also is a member of the Modern Brotherhood of America, and of the Episcopal Guild, of Faribault.

**John H. Orr**, a native of Greenville county, Ontario, was born January 13, 1856, and is one of a family of ten children (nine of whom are living) born to William and Harriet A. (Anderson) Orr. The father died in Canada, and in 1868 the mother, with some of her children, settled at Dundas, in Rice county, Minnesota, where she passed the remainder of her life, reaching the advanced age of eighty-one years. Our subject acquired his education in the public schools of Dundas, and began his business career as clerk in the general store of Mr. J. W. Huckins, of that place, with whom he remained continually fifteen years, with the exception of a short time spent clerking in a store in St. Paul. He then bought the business of his employer and during the next ten years conducted it in his own name, with moderate success. Closing out his interests, Mr. Orr retired from mercantile business in 1898, purchasing a tract of ninety-five acres of land, and turned his attention to dairy farming, breeding and raising Jersey cows, and selling his cream to the local creamery and also shipping to St. Paul. This farm, fully equipped and improved with good buildings, including a fine dwelling house, is a model of its kind, lying partly within the corporate limits of Dundas, and being known as the Riverside Stock Farm. Mr. Orr has another farm of eighty acres, located some three miles from the village. Mr. Orr is identified with the Masonic order, being a thirty-second degree Mason, and also holds membership in the Modern Woodmen of America. His wife and daughter are members of the Eastern Star. In 1883 Mr. Orr married Clare E., a daughter of William B. and Mary (Borthwick) Tailor, the former a native of England and the latter of Scotland. On coming to this country they settled first in New York, but later came to Dundas, where Mrs. Orr was born, being the first white child born in the village. Of three children born to Mr. and Mrs. Orr, George E., the eldest, is employed at Faribault; Ethel, the second, is a student at the State Normal School at St. Cloud, Minn., while Earl W. is attending the high school at Northfield.

**Nicholas Offerman**, a self-made and prosperous business man of Faribault, Minn., was born in Bauler, Germany, February 2,



1852. He came to America with his parents at the age of five years and acquired his education in the public schools of Iowa and Minnesota. His school days over, he assisted his father on his farm near New Market, Scott county, Minn., until he attained his majority. Then the grocery business engaged his attention, and after gaining eighteen months' experience in that line in the store of Charles Brandt, of Faribault, he started in business for himself, October 9, 1874. December, 1875, he disposed of his interest, and the 26th of the following January he launched into the retail boot and shoe business, where he has met with a marked degree of success. He has a large stock of boots and shoes of high grade goods, and his store is known as one of the most modern in southern Minnesota. Mr. Offerman is a member of the Democratic party, but has never cared to enter politics as a candidate for office. He was the organizer of the St. Lawrence Benevolent Society, January 13, 1880, and has ever since been a member, and is also connected with the Catholic Order of Foresters. He was married, October 14, 1873, at Faribault, to Miss Annie Lechner, a native of the Fatherland. They have four children, named respectively, in order of their birth: Katharine B., born October 23, 1874, who married William A. Bieter, now of Heron Lake, Jackson county, Minn.; M. W., born October 13, 1876, who, after completing his education in the public schools, went into the dry goods business, working for Ochs Brothers at Faribault for four years. Then he removed to St. Peter, 1901, and conducted a dry goods business of his own till 1907, when he sold out and entered into partnership with his father, at Faribault, in the retail boot and shoe line. The third child, Mary, born May 8, 1879, died in infancy, and the fourth, Rosie, born July 24, 1889, died December 8, 1898. Our subject's parents, Sab, and Katharina Offerman, also natives of Bauler, Germany, came to America in 1857, locating at Dubuque, Iowa, for seven years, and then removing to New Market, Scott county, Minn., 1864, where they continued their occupation of general farming till 1873. They then retired from active work and took up their home with their son on Third street and Fifth avenue, Faribault. The father passed away on March 5, 1878, and the mother followed, February 2, 1883. The family has always held to the tenets of the German Catholic Church.

**C. Oscar Olin**, a live and enterprising business man of Faribault, Minn., was born in that city February 4, 1881. He received a thorough education in the public schools of Faribault, supplementing this with a course in the Faribault Business College. His school days over, he entered the employ of a book and stationery company, remaining there until 1907, when he launched into business on his own account, opening the Olin

Book and Stationery Store, which he has managed with great success, now having over a \$6,000 stock of well selected, up-to-date goods. He is agent for the St. Paul "Press" and "Dispatch," and has one of the finest lines of magazines and papers in the city. Mr. Olin also carries a large stock of wall paper, employing nine men as paperhangers and painters, besides a large office and clerking force. As to political principles, he is a strong adherent of the Republican party. He holds to the tenets of the Norwegian Lutheran Church. His residence is located at 414 Tenth street. Mr. Olin is one of a large family, having five sisters and brothers, viz.: William, of Minneapolis; Ole, of Faribault; John P., of Minneapolis; Lena, married to S. Swenson, of Minneapolis; and Julia, wife of H. Halverson, of Forest township. Ole and Esther (Knuteson) Olin, his parents, were born and raised in Norway, coming from the Fatherland to America about 1867, and locating at Faribault, where the father was engaged in tailoring up to the time of his death, April 17, 1902. The mother is still living at Faribault.

**Alvah M. Olin.** The founder of the American family of Olin was John Olin, who was born in Wales, and settled in Rhode Island in 1838. His son, Henry, and grandson, Caleb, were both born in that state, the latter's birth occurring in Old Warwick, R. I., December 8, 1753. Caleb served during the Revolutionary War, under orders from the military committee of safety, and was present at the evacuation of Ticonderoga and the battle of Bennington, Vt. His death occurred at Potsdam, N. Y., August 7, 1838. The next in order of descent was Thomas D. Olin, born in Vermont, August 25, 1779.

His son was Thomas H., the father of the subject of this sketch, born in Canton, N. Y., June 13, 1811. May 25, 1837, he married Sarah A. Church, at Milwaukee, Wis. She was born in West Chazey, Vt., January 13, 1817. They were the parents of four children: Rollin C., born August 25, 1839, is a physician of Detroit, Mich.; Melvin T., born February 10, 1841, lives in Stevens Point, Wis.; Alvah M., born August 1, 1843, lives in Northfield; Millicent S., born November 21, 1857, lives in Detroit, Mich.

Thomas H. Olin came to Rice county in the early days, located on a farm on Prairie creek, Northfield township, and built a shanty. He returned to Wisconsin in the fall and when he came back to Rice county, May 31, 1855, he found that a Mr. Sanford had taken his location. Consequently, to avoid trouble, Mr. Olin abandoned his original claim and purchased a site from George Smith. He then brought his family overland from Wisconsin, driving his cattle and bringing his household effects with him. Thomas H. Olin was of stanch character and

of just disposition, and, being pre-eminently a God-fearing man, was one of the founders of the Congregational Church in Northfield, serving as deacon of that church until the time of his death, which occurred in Detroit, Mich., at the home of his son Rollin. His wife died in December, 1899.

The parents of Mrs. Alvah M. Olin were Alexander and Nancy (Packard) Jameson, both born in Maine, the father June 9, 1797, and the mother January 13, 1803. They were married October 25, 1825, and their union was blessed with four children: Mercy A., born July 24, 1826, married to William Keene; Abner, born March 30, 1829; Mrs. Sarah E. Olin, born June 19, 1844, and Charles, born May 9, 1837. All are dead except Mrs. Olin. Alexander Jameson died April 19, 1864, and his wife passed away April 19, 1873. Mr. and Mrs. Alvah M. Olin have one daughter, Gertrude E., born May 7, 1872. She was married September 16, 1897, to Ernest Bunday, and they have one son, Alvah S., born June 29, 1898.

**David H. Orr**, now retired, deserves a high place among the pioneer farmers of Minnesota. He was one of the pioneer raisers of hops, barley and apples in this part of the country, and had much to do with the agricultural upbuilding of Rice county. He has also been interested in educational matters, and is himself a poet of no little ability. Born August 27, 1825, in Oneida county, New York, he received his education in his native state, and in 1857 came to Minnesota and pre-empted 160 acres in Watonwan county. He then returned to New York, settled up his business affairs there, and in 1857 returned and purchased 200 acres in sections 14 and 15, in Northfield township. In 1865 he built a cheese factory, one of the first built in Minnesota. Mr. Orr declares that he made as good cheese in those days as is now produced by the most modern methods. In 1863 he planted a hop yard and raised the first hops that were produced in Minnesota, with the exception of a Mr. Owans, who had a small yard, but did not make a success of the attempt. In the spring of the same year that he started his hop-raising venture he sent to New York for twenty-five apple trees, and planted these on his farm. The trees flourished and produced one crop, but a heavy snow, followed by a partial thaw and a very hard freeze, killed every tree. In the spring of 1863, the same year of his other ventures, he raised barley on his place, which makes him among the first in the state to raise that crop also. Some years later he purchased an interest in the Cascade Manufacturing Company, in Goodhue county, which he at first operated in partnership with D. F. Aiken, Mr. Lockwood and Sumner Drake. He later purchased his partners' interest and operated the mill until it burned, in 1896. In the meantime he was adding to his

farm, and finally acquired in all 760 acres. He has now sold all but 420 acres. Several years ago he moved to Northfield, where he now resides. Mr. and Mrs. Orr are members of the Northfield Pioneer Society, and Mr. Orr has served as its president. Mr. Orr is known in surrounding counties as well as his own, and his poems, written to celebrate various occasions, have become widely and favorably received. He has always been interested in education and for many years has been prominently identified with literary and debating societies, many of which have assisted in the development of the higher life of the community. The subject of this sketch has served his township as supervisor and has been treasurer of schools. He was married February 7, 1862, to Catharine Tiffany, born in Scholastic county, New York, but raised in Oneida county, where her parents moved while she was still an infant. To Mr. and Mrs. Orr were born four sons: Charles D., now of Northfield; Erwin E., now of Wadena, Minn.; Burton E., of Faribault, and Benjamin F., also of Faribault.

William and Phœbe (Parkhurst) Orr, parents of David H. Orr, spent the larger part of their lives in Madison county, New York. The father was born in June, 1800, in County Down, Ireland, and died in June, 1872. The mother was born in Farley, Vt., in 1802, and died July 2, 1873. They were married in Oneida, N. Y.

**Thomas Olson**, retired business man of Northfield, was born in Norway, January 1, 1856, his parents, both of Norwegian birth, being now deceased. He came to America in 1882, and settled at once in Northfield. For twelve years he conducted a café and was also engaged in the grocery business with C. O. Lockrain three years. He then opened a shoe store, which he managed for a period of about three years also. In 1906 he retired from active business, with the pleasing consciousness of having attained success in all his undertakings. In 1908 he returned to his native country and remained about four months, looking after his real-estate holdings there, which consist of a farm and timber land. He now lives in his comfortable residence at 700 South Division street, and in addition to this and his Norway property, owns a fine business block in this place. He is a popular member of the Eagles and the Odd Fellows. Mr. Olson was married August 26, 1886, to Caroline Peterson, also a native of Norway.

**John G. Osmundson** was born in Rice county, May 20, 1864. He is a son of O. and Anike Osmundson, both natives of Norway. The father was a sailor, and came to America in 1845, locating in Wisconsin, but in 1850 he went to California, prospecting for gold. In 1855 he returned and located in Nerstrand,



Minn., pre-empting land, upon which he has carried on general farming up to the present time. He is now eighty-four years old. Osmund Osmundson is entitled to the credit of naming the village of Nerstrand, that being the name of the town in Norway where he was born. Mr. John G. Osmundson was educated in the district schools of Nerstrand, and at St. Olaf's College, Northfield, Minn. After leaving college he established a general mercantile business at Nerstrand, in partnership with H. N. Hegns, which continued until 1892, when he sold out to his partner and bought an entire new stock and continued in business. In 1885 he was married to Lena Hanson, a daughter of John and Olive (Peterson) Hanson, both natives of Denmark. Mr. Hanson was a sea captain, who came to America, and finally located in Minnesota, where he engaged in farming up to the time of his death. His wife died in 1907. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Osmundson: Albert O., J. Orville, and Amanda, all living in the state of Montana. Mrs. Osmundson died some years ago, and Mr. Osmundson was married a second time to Adelia Barte, whose parents lived and carried on a farm in Wheeling township until their death. Five children were born by the second wife: Mildred, Gertrude, Hazel, Russell, and Sharpe, all living at home. Mrs. Osmundson is quite extensively engaged in raising poultry. Her favorite breeds are Plymouth Rocks, Golden Wyandottes, Rose Comb Black Bantams and Bronze turkeys. She has received a number of prizes. In politics Mr. Osmundson is a Democrat, and he has been treasurer of the village for a number of years. In his religious views he is a Lutheran.

**Haagen Olsen**, a well-to-do and enterprising farmer of Webster township, was born in Norway, September 18, 1839. He is a son of Ole and Johanna (Gunderson) Hendrickson, natives of Norway, who farmed in their native country until the father's death in 1880. The mother died in 1895. Our subject received his education in Norway. Leaving school, he farmed in his native country until 1867, which time he emigrated to America and located in Dakota county, where he farmed for five years, and then went to North Dakota, where he farmed for two years; returning to Minnesota, he located in Webster township, Rice county, where he has carried on general farming successfully up to the present time. In 1867 Mr. Olsen married Mary Olsen. They have four children, viz.: Olivia, who lives in North Dakota; John, also in North Dakota; Hermina, a teacher, residing at home; Mary is dead. Mrs. Olsen died in 1873. Mr. Olsen married a second time in 1879, to Miss Anna M. ———, whose parents live in Dakota county, Minnesota. They have eight children, named, in the respective order of their birth: Juliana, now





E. B. ORCUTT

Mrs. Johnson; Edwin, Harold, Herbert George, Ole, Alma, Johanna. Mr. Olsen has taken an active part in the progressive movement of his community. He is a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator at Louxdale, the Farmers' Webster Co-operative Telephone Company, and in the creamery. He has served as treasurer in the school board for a number of years, and has also served on the town board. In politics he is affiliated with the Republican party, and in religious faith he belongs to the Norwegian Lutheran Church.

**William F. Orcutt**, who has been a resident of Cannon City township, Rice county, Minn., nearly all his life, was born in Dodge county, Wisconsin, and is the eldest of a family of five children born to Edward B. and Sylvia (Dunning) Orcutt, natives of the Empire State. In 1852 the father settled in Dodge county, Wisconsin, on a farm, and three years later moved with his family to Rice county, Minnesota, settling on a tract of 160 acres of land which he purchased in Cannon City township. Here he made a home, and carried on general farming and spent his days, his death occurring February 1, 1894. His widow survived him some fifteen years, and died April 21, 1909. Of their other children, Francis J., whose sketch appears in this volume, is a farmer; Miranda is married to Mr. J. F. Clossin, of Cannon City township; Lorinda S., now deceased, was married to Mr. W. A. Thompson, and Minnie, the youngest, is married to Mr. D. A. McLean. Our subject has always devoted himself to farming, and is counted one of the substantial men of the community. He is a Republican in political sentiment, but has never sought or held any office. In religious faith he is affiliated with the Methodist Evangelical Church. On October 6, 1893, Mr. Orcutt married Miss Lydia Schreiber, whose parents, John and Sophia (Smith) Schreiber, came from Germany, their native land, at an early day, and settled on a farm in Wisconsin. Thence they moved to Rice county, Minnesota, and settled on a farm in Wheeling township, where the father died in 1907, and where the mother now resides (1910). Mr. and Mrs. Orcutt have three children: Myrtle M., Lloyd F., and Helen D., all of whom are attending school.

**Francis J. Orcutt** is a prosperous farmer of Cannon City township, Rice county, Minn., and was born there, July 24, 1855, son of Edward B. and Sylvia (Dunning) Orcutt, natives of New York state. In his early life the father followed the Erie Canal, but in 1852 settled on a farm in Dodge county, Wisconsin, whence, in 1855, he moved to Rice county, Minnesota. Here he bought a quarter section of land in Cannon township, which he subdued and improved, and where he carried on general farming and reared his family. He died at the family home-



stead February 1, 1894. The mother's death occurred April 21, 1909. Our subject grew up on his father's farm and attended the public schools. He lived on the home farm till he was twenty-two years old. He then came into possession of eighty acres of land and afterwards, with his brother, William F. Orcutt, purchased the interests of the other heirs in the home place, and still later added twenty-five acres, making in all 265 acres of farm land. He also has twenty acres of timber land. The farm is improved with good buildings, is well stocked, and equipped with modern appliances and implements needed in carrying on general farming. Mr. Orcutt is a leading man in the community and has served as a member and chairman of the town board, as supervisor and for twenty-four years as clerk of school district. He is a Republican in politics and has served on the county committee.

On March 7, 1888, Mr. Orcutt married Miss Anna M., daughter of Warren and Hanna (Wright) Smith, natives of Orleans county, New York. Mr. and Mrs. Orcutt have three children, viz.: Guy Francis and Edward Burr, who are pupils in the high school at Faribault, and Leslie W., who also is attending school.

**T. O. O'Grady, Jr.**, was born in Forest township, Rice county, Minn., April 4, 1887. He is a son of T. O. and Mary Jane (Shields) O'Grady. The mother was a native of Wisconsin and the father a native of Ireland. He came to this country, when a child, with his parents. They located first in New York state and later came to Illinois, remaining there until 1853. In that year Mr. O'Grady, Sr., came to Minnesota and located in Forest township, Rice county, where he took up a claim, cleared the land, erected buildings, and did general farming until his death, September 25, 1909. The mother still lives on the old homestead. They had nine children: Mary Ann, Margaret, Isabel, Ruth, John, James, now deceased; Ellen, now deceased; T. O. Jr., the subject of this sketch, and Nora. In his religious belief Mr. O'Grady is a Catholic, and in politics he is a Democrat. Mr. O'Grady, Sr., in his lifetime held all the town offices and served one term on the county committee.

**August Oleson** was born in Sweden, July 18, 1849. He is a son of Olaver and Marie Johnson. They were both natives of Sweden, and the father was a farmer until his death in 1876; the mother died in 1882. August attended school in Sweden, and worked on his father's farm until he came to America, in 1868. He located first at La Crosse, Wis., where he worked as a day laborer until 1869, when he came to Faribault. He worked out on a farm for three years, when he married Mary Swanson, a daughter of Swan and Augre (Peterson) Swanson. After his marriage he went to Minneapolis and worked in the lumber mills

for about five years. He then came back to Rice county and bought a farm of eighty acres and later an additional eighty acres in Forest township, where he has done a general farming up to the present time. Six children have blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Oleson: Freda, now Mrs. Frank Anderson; Ingre M., now Mrs. A. Johnson; Edward, living at home; Axel, married and living in Minneapolis; Anna and Walfred, both at home. Mr. Oleson is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. In his political views he is a Democrat. He has served his town on the board of supervisors and also on the school board.

**M. S. Osmundson**, a progressive farmer of Wheeling township, has been prominently identified with the public life of his vicinity for many years. He has served as treasurer of the village council for the past eight years; also as trustee two years of the Valley Grove Church. He was the first treasurer of the village of Nerstrand. He is also a stockholder of the Farmers' State Bank at that place. Mr. Osmundson is a native born son of Minnesota, his natal appearance having taken place August 31, 1862, in Wheeling township. He is the son of Osmund Osmundson. Our subject received his education in the district schools of Wheeling township. After leaving school he worked on his father's farm, where he has made his home ever since. In 1898 Mr. Osmundson married Lena, daughter of Nels and Margaret (Hendrickson) Hegnes, natives of Norway. The father's work was that of a common laborer, which he followed until he passed away in 1872. Mrs. Hegnes emigrated to America in 1887, and lived with her son, O. N. Hegnes, at Nerstrand, until she died in 1908. Three children have blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Osmundson, viz.: Osmund, Leonard and Ambrosia, who are all living at home. In political faith Mr. Osmundson is a Republican. He is a member of the Lutheran Church.

**Charles H. Pierce**, postmaster of Northfield, has given the people efficient service, and his accommodating and genial spirit has made him one of the most popular citizens of the city. After leaving school, Mr. Pierce worked for a number of years as a printer, and received his appointment as postmaster of Northfield from President William McKinley, his commission being renewed by Presidents Theodore Roosevelt and William Taft.

**Christian N. Peterson**, artistic photographer of Faribault, is a native of Norway, born January 8, 1860. He came to America with his parents as a boy of six years, receiving his education in the public schools of Wisconsin and Minnesota. After leaving school he learned the furniture finishing trade with A. L. Hill and N. S. Flint, and spent a short time house painting with Ship-

man & Arney. In October, 1878, he entered the employ of A. F. Bunham, and worked with him one and a half years, learning the art of photography. Then he engaged in that business in partnership with Louis Peavey, continuing until 1884, when he purchased the gallery of A. F. Bunham, for whom he had previously worked. Mr. Peterson has built up a large trade, and his artistic work carries its own appeal to persons of refined tastes. Mr. Peterson is a member of the Faribault Commercial Club, the Knights of Pythias and the Elks. He is a Republican in politics, and attends the Norwegian Lutheran Church.

The parents of Christian N. Peterson were Ole and Cecil O. Troseth Peterson, natives of Norway. They came to America in 1866, located ten miles east of La Crosse and engaged in farming. In 1869 they came to Faribault, and here the father engaged in carpenter and mason work for a long period. He has now retired. The mother died in March, 1907. In the family there were two children besides Christian. Both are living. They are Randvold and Pauline E.

**Caleb G. Pye**, an honored and respected citizen of Faribault, Minn., was born near Chicago, Ill., February 15, 1851. A few years later his parents removed to Wheeling township, Rice county, Minn., and there he spent his boyhood, acquiring a good common-school education in the district schools, after which he assisted his father in farming the old homestead till 1878, when he rented the old farm for himself, and later, 1886, purchased it outright. He continued to improve and cultivate the land, added new buildings, and built up one of the finest farms in the county, and followed his profession of agriculture with much success till 1900, when he sold the place and moved to Faribault. Mr. Pye is an ardent adherent of the principles of the Prohibition party, and has always taken a keen interest in things tending to the betterment of society. He has served as justice of the peace, road assessor, and clerk of his school district, all in the township of Wheeling. In religious belief he follows the tenets of the Congregational Church. December 31, 1877, at Jackson, Minn., he married Florence E. Cooke, of Jackson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Orson Cooke. Six children have blessed this union, viz.: Watts O., born October 20, 1878, who is now a missionary at Shan-Si, Fon-Cho-Fu, China; Alberta E., born February 17, 1880, died June 20, 1905; Ernest C., born October 6, 1881, student at Oberlin Seminary, Ohio; Marva B., born August 20, 1883, died July 29, 1902; Hazel E., born September 7, 1891, a student at Faribault high school; Gladys E., born March 26, 1894, now attending the Central school. Watts O. and Mary A. (Goodman) Pye, parents of Caleb G. Pye, were born in Norfolkshire, England. The father was a molder and furnaceman

in a foundry in his native country till 1848, when he emigrated to America with his wife, and located in Illinois, engaging in farming for seven years; then removed to Wheeling township, Rice county, Minn., where he pre-empted a 160-acre claim. This was their home till 1883, when they removed to Cannon City, Minn., where they lived retired until the death of the mother, February 11, 1886. The father then returned to the farm in Wheeling, where he lived with his son, Caleb G., until his decease.

**John Peterson**, the well-known furniture gentleman of Faribault, was born in Sweden, November 23, 1871. Here he remained till he was fourteen years of age, receiving a good education in the public schools of his native country, after which he came to America, working his way over. Landing in his adopted county, he located in Boston, Mass., where he completed his education. In 1891 he migrated North, coming to Faribault, and entering the employ of the Faribault Furniture Company, in which he passed the next ten years, acquiring a good knowledge of the furniture business. He then went to Waterville, Minn., and established the Waterville Furniture Company, to which he devoted his entire attention for the next five years, meeting with a very marked degree of success and winning a wide reputation for his output. He is still connected with this company as designer, also being one of the important stockholders. In 1906 he came back to Faribault and organized the Peterson Art Furniture Company, of which he has been sole owner and proprietor ever since. Mr. Peterson is an independent voter, believing that the fitness of the man for the office should determine his election, regardless of party. He has never aspired to political office, his large business interests absorbing all his time and energy. He is identified with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and is a prominent member of the Commercial Club. In religious convictions he holds to the faith of the Lutheran Church. November 24, 1905, he united in marriage with Grace Goodwin, of Marshall, Minn., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joshua Goodwin. They have two children: Jack G., born September 14, 1906, and Lonta D., born June 5, 1908. The family residence is on the corner of Fifth avenue and First street, South. Andrew and Bertha (Martinson) Peterson, parents of our subject, were natives of Sweden. The father died in 1874, and the mother in 1880, leaving their son an orphan at the age of nine. Joshua Goodwin, father of Mrs. John Peterson, followed farming as an occupation and carried arms during the War of the Rebellion. He survives his wife, who died in 1903.

**Henry Pryor**, estimable citizen, Civil War veteran, and retired farmer, now living at Northfield, was born in the Province



of New Brunswick, Canada, April 4, 1837, the oldest of eleven children. He came West with his parents, to Prescott, Wis., as a boy of seventeen years, lived there about a year, and in 1855 went with his parents to Greenvale township, Dakota county, Minn., where he remained until the outbreak of the Civil War, when he enlisted in Company F of the famous Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. His regiment was sent against the Indians, and after the close of this campaign was sent South and assigned to the Twenty-third Army Corps, under General Schofield. Mr. Pryor saw service at the battle of the Cedars and at Murfreesboro and also participated in many minor engagements, receiving his honorable discharge May 17, 1865, at Douglas Hospital, Washington. After returning from the war, Mr. Pryor purchased 160 acres of land in Castle Rock township, Dakota county, and added to his original purchase from time to time until he now owns 565 acres, all in Castle Rock and Eureka townships. This farm, operated for so long and so successfully by Mr. Pryor, is now managed by his four sons, the subject of this sketch having retired in 1904, when he took up his residence in Northfield. Mr. Pryor belongs to J. L. Heywood Post, G. A. R., and he and his wife have been long-time members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Northfield. Mr. Pryor was married September 27, 1871, to Elizabeth King. Mr. and Mrs. Pryor have had seven children, six of whom are living. They are: Gertrude E., born September 10, 1873, married to Henry Moody, of Prescott, Wis.; Frederick C., born December 6, 1874; Henry L., born April 23, 1877, and died August 22, 1899; William T., born August 6, 1878, and married to Nina King, of Charlotte, Mich.; Nellie B., born September 7, 1883; Robert K., born October 31, 1885, and Alexander A., born May 6, 1888. The parents of Henry Pryor were Alexander and Ann (Smith) Pryor, the former born in Nova Scotia, and the latter in New Brunswick. The family came to the Northwest in the spring of 1855 and located in Prescott, Wis., one year later settling in Greenvale township, Dakota county, this state, where Alexander Pryor pre-empted 160 acres, which he cultivated until 1861, when he sold this land and purchased a farm in section 36, where he lived until his death, December 6, 1880. The mother died November 28, 1890. In this family there were eleven children. They were: Henry Pryor, the subject of this sketch; Elizabeth, married to Alec Schrader, of Virginia; Mary Pryor, of Castle Rock; John, deceased; William, deceased; Susan, married to Charles Plummer, of Hawley, Minn.; Annie, now Mrs. Walter Tanner, of Pomona, Cal.; Eliza, married to John Costain, of Moorhead, Minn.; Julia, married to Edward Merwin, of Chico, Cal.; Alexander, of Wheaton, Minn., and Guilford, of

San Jose, Cal. The parents of Mrs. Henry Pryor (nee Elizabeth King) were Charles and Mary (Clague) King, the former born in Scotland in 1813, and the latter in the Isle of Man in 1818. They were married in 1840 and came to New York in 1853, remaining one year. In 1854 they came to Greenvale, Dakota county, and pre-empted 160 acres of land. In 1869 they removed to Hastings and there made their home. The father died in 1882 and the mother November 26, 1895. Their four children were: Mrs. W. H. Lucas, of Hastings, Mrs. Henry Pryor, of Northfield; Mrs. V. Shepard, of Northfield, and W. C. King, of St. Paul.

Charles William Pye was born in Yorkshire, England, September 10, 1845, a son of Watts Austin and Mary A. (Goodman) Pye, both natives of England. The father, Watts Austin Pye, was born in Wisonsett, Norfolkshire, England, January 2, 1818. In 1848 he came to the United States and settled in Illinois, where he resided seven years, coming to Minnesota in 1855. He pre-empted 160 acres of land in section 18, township of Wheeling, Rice county, and proceeded to bring the place under cultivation. He was one of the first officers of the town and was prominent in its early local government. He was always known as a man of sterling integrity and left to his children the inheritance of an untarnished name. He died March 10, 1900. Mary A. Goodman, the wife of Watts Austin and mother of Charles W., was born October 24, 1817, and died February 12, 1894. The grandfather of Charles W. was John R. Pye, born in 1776 and died in 1853. In the family of Watts A. and Mary (Goodman) Pye were six children who attained maturity, two dying in infancy. Phillis A. married Augustus L. Tenney, of Downers Grove, Ill. Watts A. enlisted August 18, 1862, in Company B, Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and died in service, August 18, 1863, aged nineteen years. Charles W. lives in Northfield. Caleb G. lives in Faribault. Mary A. is the widow of Edward Oliver, and is a resident of Chicago. Major J. Richard Pye lives in San Francisco, Cal. Charles W. Pye received his education in the public school and the parochial school, afterward taking courses in Shattuck school, in Faribault. He studied law with Col. John C. Morrow and was admitted to the bar September 7, 1867. After his admission to the bar he engaged in teaching in the schools of Rice and Goodhue counties for a period of thirteen years, practicing law in connection with his teaching. For the past twenty-seven years Mr. Pye has devoted his time exclusively to the practice of his profession in Northfield. August 26, 1868, Charles W. Pye married Lucy A. Cooke, at Faribault. To this union have been born four children: William Watts, born December 25, 1870; Grace Mabel,

born January 21, 1873; Edith Marion, born November 24, 1875, and Charles Richard, born January 19, 1883.

William W. Pye was educated in the public schools and Carlton college, and studied law, being admitted to the bar October 3, 1894. In 1891 he was married to Ruth Violet Goodman. Mr. and Mrs. William W. Pye have three children—Ruth Margaret, born March 23, 1895; William Harlan, born December 22, 1896; Helen Evelyn, born August 3, 1908. William W. has practiced his profession in Northfield ever since his admission to the bar, filling the office of county attorney two terms within that time. Charles R. Pye is a graduate of the University of Minnesota, class of 1906. He was admitted to practice June 15, 1906, and is junior partner in the law firm of William W. and Charles R. Pye. Charles R. Pye married Clara Hoppin, June 8, 1908. Northfield is the native home of all the children of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Pye and of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Pye. Mrs. Charles W. Pye was born March 12, 1844, in Dane county, Wisconsin. Her parents were Orson Cooke and Jane Elizabeth Cooke, both natives of New York state. They were married in 1842, and lived on a farm in the town of Middleton, seven miles west of Madison, until the spring of 1860, when they removed to Minnesota, settling in Jackson county in 1867. Orson and Jane E. Cooke were the parents of seven children: Lucy A., married to Charles W. Pye; Helen J.; Edwin E., deceased; Anna E., married to G. T. Foster; La Rue P.; Florence H., married to C. G. Pye, and Eugene W.

Orson Cooke was born in the town of Butternuts, Otsego county, N. Y., July 29, 1813, and died in Jackson county, Minnesota, October 30, 1883. The father of Orson Cooke and grandfather of Mrs. Charles W. Pye was Elias Cooke, who settled in Otsego county, New York, in a very early day. In 1794 he married Lucy Hawley and they became the parents of fourteen children, ten sons and four daughters, all of whom, except one son, attained maturity. The first ancestor of Elias Cooke in this country was Gregory Cooke, who came from Yorkshire, England, in 1635 and settled in Massachusetts. Elias Cooke was born August 14, 1769, and lived to be eighty-two years old. Lucy (Hawley) Cooke, his wife, was born January 24, 1778, and lived about sixty-five years.

The ancestors of Jane Elizabeth Thompson, wife of Orson Cooke and mother of Mrs. Charles W. Pye, were of Scotch and Holland Dutch lineage. Her great-grandparents were Archibald Thompson and Jacoba (Schureman) Thompson, the dates of whose births and deaths have not been ascertained. Her grandfather was Capt. John Thompson, birth and death of uncertain date. He was probably born in New Brunswick, N. J. His mar-

riage to Jane Strykes is recorded in the books of the old Dutch Reformed Church of that place. Captain John removed to Broadalbin, N. J., in 1802, and there bought a farm and erected a saw mill, a grist mill and a paper mill. The house in which he lived is owned by his descendants, and though over 100 years old, is still standing. George Thompson, his son, the father of Jane E. Cooke, and grandfather of Mrs. Charles W. Pye, was one of the ten children of Capt. John and Jane Strykes Thompson. George Thompson married Elizabeth Fonda about 1810. He died in October, 1816, when but thirty-one years old, leaving a young wife and three children: Archibald P., four years old; Anne Q., and Jane, but ten days. Archibald was adopted by a sister of George Thompson, Mrs. Perrine, wife of Dr. Matthew La Rue Perrine, of Auburn, N. Y. The little girls and their mother lived with Captain John until his death about 1820, after which they lived with their mother's father, General Fonda. Jane Elizabeth (Thompson) Cooke died July 11, 1901, aged eighty-four years.

The record of the Thompson family, from Archibald Thompson and his wife, Jacoba (Schureman) Thompson, to the children of Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Pye, inclusive, may be found in a book entitled "Schuremans of New Jersey," also in the "Genealogical and Biographical Record of New York," by Richard Wyncoop. General William Fonda, the maternal grandfather of Jane E. Cooke, was a Hollander. He owned a large tract of land in Fulton county, New York, much of it forest, where Fonda and Fonda's Bush (now Broadalbin) stand. His family, including the children of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Pye, is recorded in the "Genealogical and Biographical Record of New York," by Richard Wyncoop.

**Sylvester M. Pye** was one of the pioneers of Faribault, and for forty-five years was closely identified with the development of the new town. He was born in New York City, August 26, 1822, and after completing his education entered into business with his father, Simeon, in the manufacture of high grade hand-made locks, at Passaic, N. J. Being of a mechanical nature, he was very successful as a manufacturer and expert patternmaker, but retired from the lock trade upon the establishment of the cheap lock industry. In 1852 Mr. Pye entered the retail hardware business, forming a co-partnership with R. D. Sanford, a lifelong friend. For many years they conducted the business on Broadway, New York. In 1864 Mr. Pye retired from active business and in the same year was married to Eliza Dean, daughter of Mr. Wm. E. Dean, a prominent book publisher of New York. Early in the spring of 1864 they came West for a brief visit, expecting to remain in Faribault but a short time, but the



exhilarating climate and wonderful possibilities of the West decided them to remain and make it their future home. In 1887 Mr. Pye purchased the property now known as Manley Park, located most delightfully on the shores of Lake Chedeweta, four miles west of Faribault. Here Mr. and Mrs. Pye spent their summers, improving and beautifying the property, until it is now considered one of the most attractive country homes in the state. Mr. Pye was a man of strong character, deeply interested in all the current events of the day, a lover of nature, a great reader and deep thinker. Mr. Pye died January 21, 1910, survived by two nephews: William Mills Pye, of Faribault, and Sylvester Manley Pye, of Hollywood, Cal.

**William Mills Pye**, retired business man and successful farmer, was born in Helena, Texas, July 7, 1861. His early youth was spent in Hastings, Faribault, Alexandria, in Minnesota, and Bismarck, in North Dakota. After leaving school, in 1881, he took up the retail dry goods business in Bismarck, and in 1887 located in St. Paul and was a department manager for Field, Schlick & Co. for nearly twenty years. A few years ago he took up farming in Wells township, controlling some 400 acres, and carrying on general farming, making a specialty of fine seed grain, his product in 1908 being acknowledged as the best in the state. In the winters, Mr. Pye makes his home in Faribault; in the summer he lives at Manley Park, on the banks of Lake Che-de-weta. He is a member of the Commercial Club and of the Golf Club. William M. Pye was married March 27, 1887, at Fargo, N. D., to Belle Burton Johnson, of Bismarck, step-daughter of Capt. Andrew Johnson, who for many years was connected with the Benton Line of steamers on the upper Missouri river. He died in 1886. His wife, whose maiden name was Martha A. Morrow, is now living in Beardstown, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Pye have one child, Robert Burton, born at St. Paul, June 2, 1889.

William M. and Mary E. (Arlington) Pye, parents of William Mills Pye, were natives of New York City. The father went to Texas in 1860, for the benefit of his health, and remained there until the outbreak of the Civil War, when, leaving his wife and son, William Mills, in Texas, he returned to New York, undergoing many difficulties and being several times arrested while making his way through the rebellious states of the South. In 1863 the family moved to Hastings, Minn., remained a short period, and in 1864 came to Faribault, where the father engaged in general mercantile business. In 1868 he took up the same business in Alexandria, Minn., and in 1872 went to Bismarck, N. D., where he engaged in banking and lumber. In 1907 he went to California, and died at Los Angeles, November 16, 1907.

Sylvester M. Pye, brother of William Mills, lives in Hollywood, Cal., and is engaged in the lumber business. He was born in Faribault, February 10, 1864, and was married at Bismarck, N. D., to Loraine Allen, of that city. To Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester M. Pye have been born three children: Erma, Merrill and Clarence.

**Henry Pierce**, a native of Prescott, Hampshire county, Mass., was born September 23, 1820. He acquired a good education in the public schools of Prescott, graduating from the high school there. His school days over, he took up farming and was engaged in this up to his twentieth year, when he learned the shoemaker's trade, following this and also gardening till his emigration West in 1864. He located in Chicago, and in 1867 at Faribault, Minn., and opened a first-class shoemaking establishment, in which he remained until his retirement twenty-five years later, earning a well deserved reputation as an expert workman in his line. Mr. Pierce resides at the corner of Third avenue and Fourth street. As to political convictions, he is an adherent of the Republican party, and has always taken an interest in public affairs, serving as member of the constitutional convention in Massachusetts in 1852 and as representative in the Massachusetts legislature in 1860, and as alderman in 1876 and 1877, in Faribault. He is a member of the Universalist Church. In 1844 he was married to Adeline Pierce, of Shutesbury, Mass. They had five children, all of whom are deceased. The mother's death occurred March 18, 1868. Mr. Pierce married again, December 12, 1869, to Orrilla Pierce, a sister of his first wife, having four children by his second wife, three of whom survive. They are: Jessie A.; Mabel G., who lives in Red Wing; and Carrie M. Pierce.

**Lynne Peavey**, financier, president of the Security Bank of Faribault, was born in McGregor, Iowa, March 23, 1865, being brought to Faribault by his parents in 1874, at the age of nine years. He received his early education in the public schools, and subsequently attended the Shattuck school. In 1884, at the age of nineteen, he became collector and bookkeeper for the First National Bank of Faribault, faithfully performing the duties of this position until 1890, when he became assistant cashier of the Citizens' National Bank. In 1902 he became president of the Security State Bank of Owatonna, and in 1905 he returned to Faribault and became president of the Security Bank of this city, retaining that position at the present time. Mr. Peavey is a high degree Mason. Though interested in all the public issues of the day, he has never cared to participate actively in political affairs and has never sought or held public office. Mr. Peavey was married June 23, 1890, to Elizabeth H. Weld, daughter of

Mr. Luther R. Weld, of Faribault. To this union have been born three children: Roger W., Louis L. and Mary O., all at home. The family faith is that of the Episcopal Church. The parents of Lynne Peavey were Louis and Mary E. (Farrington) Peavey, natives of Maine and Vermont, respectively. They were married in Wisconsin. In 1860 they went to Iowa, and in 1874 came to Faribault. The father, who was a photographer by profession, died in Faribault in 1894 and the mother is still living.

**J. Aime Plante** is a prosperous merchant of Faribault, Minn., a native of Canada, born August 30, 1857, and is a son of Narcisse and Philomena (Bertrand) Plante, both natives of Canada. The father, an engineer by occupation, came to Faribault in 1863 and settled near the old Faribault Mill, where he was a stationary engineer. In 1867 he engaged in business with his brother, Leon, to whom he sold his interest in 1882. He then went to Minneapolis, but after six months returned to Faribault and there followed his trade till his retirement from active work in 1899. The mother departed this life January 3, 1906. Our subject was educated in the public schools and at a Sisters' school in Faribault, and after leaving school worked in the flouring mill. From 1882 till 1885 he clerked in the clothing house of Kollman & Vogel, after which he worked twelve years as bookkeeper for Mr. Lyman Tuttle. In 1897 Mr. Plante began business on his own account, as sole proprietor of a grocery and crockery store at No. 125 West Third street, and conducted it with marked success ten years, and then, in 1907, associated with himself, in the management of the increasing trade, Mr. Arthur Plante, his present partner. Mr. Plante is somewhat active in fraternal organizations, being a member and musical director in the local society of Knights of Columbus, treasurer of Catholic Foresters, and also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a Republican in political principles, and in religious faith adheres to the Catholic Church. On August 26, 1889, Mr. Plante married Georgianna, a daughter of Prospros and Leonora (Duffaney) Soucie, who died August 16, 1905. They had five children, named, respectively, Philomena Alice, Marie Ella, Beatrice L., Peter Paul, and George W., now deceased. Mrs. Plante died August 16, 1905, and on August 27, 1906, Mr. Plante married Mae Wall, whose father, Mr. S. P. Wall, is a retired merchant at Faribault, and whose mother died in 1889. By his second marriage Mr. Plante has one child, Robert Aime by name.

**George Pease**, now deceased, was a lifelong resident of Faribault, and was highly regarded by his associates. In business he was the soul of integrity and accuracy, in personal intercourse

he was affable and courteous. His hobby was nature in her varying aspects, and being an earnest advocate of out-of-door recreation, he was twice elected president of the Faribault Golf Club. George Pease was born in Faribault, May 21, 1863, son of Lauren S. and Susan M. (Gibson) Pease. He received his education in Faribault and in Carleton College at Northfield. After leaving school he entered the employ of the Citizens' National Bank as clerk. His ability as an accountant and his personal qualities as a man won him gradual promotions until he became cashier, in which position he was honorably serving at the time of his death, July 19, 1907. Mr. Pease was interested in the business and financial development of Faribault, and was an active worker in the Commercial Club. November 22, 1898, Mr. Pease was married to Annie Ricker, born June 17, 1873, at Richmond, Me., daughter of Rev. George S. and Endora J. (Stockbridge) Ricker, natives of Maine, who came West in 1882 and located in Stillwater. Subsequently they went to Missouri and Wyoming, and in 1894 came to Faribault, where Mr. Ricker preached in the First Congregational Church. He is now in Wichita, Kan. To Mr. and Mrs. Pease were born three children: George S. was born March 10, 1901; Harold was born November 14, 1904, and Carlos R. was born October 3, 1906.

**Alexander F. Pringle**, a specialist in disorders of the eye, ear, nose and throat, occupies an enviable position among the people of Northfield and Rice county. Thoroughly ethical in his practice, he has endeared himself to his patients and has won the respect and esteem of his professional associates. Dr. Pringle was born in Cornwall, Canada, October 4, 1853, son of Jacob F. and Isabella (Fraser) Pringle. He received his earlier education in the public schools and in 1880 graduated from the McGill University in Montreal, Canada. He came the same year to Northfield and engaged in general practice, being most successful. In 1892 he went to Europe and took special eye, ear, nose and throat studies for two years, returning in 1894, since which date he has devoted his entire time to his special line. In 1896 he was appointed oculist and aurist for the state institutions at Faribault—the Minnesota School for the Deaf, the Minnesota School for the Blind, and the Minnesota School for the Feeble-Minded. He also does work for the Odd Fellows' Home and Hospital. Dr. Pringle is a member of the State and National Medical Associations, and fraternally he associates with the Odd Fellows. He was married April 30, 1884, to Clara Francis Allen, born in Rice county in 1863, her parents being early settlers of this vicinity.

**Frank M. Pierce**, proprietor of the Faribault Book and Music Store, was born in Cedar Falls, Iowa, November 2, 1867, and in the schools of that neighborhood received his education.



From 1886 to 1895 he was employed in a wholesale dry goods house, and in the latter year came to Faribault, where he purchased an interest in his present business, later becoming sole owner and proprietor. Mr. Pierce belongs to the Masonic order, the Eastern Star, the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Equitable Fraternal Union. He is also an active member of the Faribault Commercial Club. In politics he is a Republican.

**Thomas H. Quinn**, attorney at law, was born in Berlin, Wis., November 6, 1854, and was brought to Faribault by his parents in infancy, receiving his early education in the schools of his neighborhood, supplemented by much private study and wide reading. His inclinations early turned toward the law, a profession his brother, Judge J. B. Quinn, had previously adopted, and his early manhood was spent in the study of the principles of equity and practice in his brother's office. In 1877 he was admitted to the bar. In 1882 he opened an office and has since continued in general practice. He has allied himself with the American and the Minnesota Bar Associations, and has taken an active part in the development of Faribault, being at the present time president of the Faribault Commercial Club. He has served as county attorney five years and city attorney six years. Fraternally, he associates with the Knights of Columbus, and in politics he is a Democrat.

**Nels Paulson** was born in Sweden, November 2, 1860, a son of Paul and Hanna (Johnson) Akerson, natives of Sweden. They came to America in 1862 or 1863, and located near Moline, Ill. They were there only a short time when the father enlisted in the Union army, and was probably killed near Little Rock, Ark., for he never returned to his home. The mother is still living in Sweden. Nels Paulson attended school in Sweden; he came to America when he was eighteen years old, and spent one year at Forest City, Iowa. He came to Minnesota and remained for a few months and then went to northern Michigan, where he worked in the iron mines for about five years. He returned to Minnesota, and settled in Forest township, in Rice county, where he purchased eighty acres in section 10. He has carried on a general farming up to the present time and has purchased an additional forty acres. In 1891 he was married to Lottie Quist, whose parents live in Sweden. They have two children: Carl Niel and Hattie Irene, and both live at home with their parents. He is a member of the Lutheran Church, and believes in the principles of the Democratic party. He has served on the town and school boards and also as assessor for five years.

**Peter Paulson** was born in Sweden, February 1, 1854, a son of Paul Nelson and Nellie True, natives of Sweden. The father carried on farming there until his death, in 1906. The mother

died in 1908. Peter Paulson attended school in Sweden. After leaving school he worked on a farm and later bought a farm, which he sold in 1885, and came to America. He located first in Minneapolis, but remained there only a few months, then came to Forest township, Rice county, and farmed until 1900. He rented his farm and engaged in the general mercantile business, which he follows at the present time. He was married in 1882 to Tilda Nelson, whose parents were natives of Sweden. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Paulson: Paul E., who lives at home; Carl H., died in 1905; Amelia D., living at home. His wife died in 1892. In 1894 Mr. Paulson was married a second time to Ellen Johnson, a daughter of John Martinson, a native of Sweden. He has no children by his second wife. In politics he is a Republican, and his religious faith is Lutheran. He has served as treasurer of the school board and is now serving as town treasurer.

**J. A. Prinzing** was born in Pennsylvania, February 22, 1870. He is a son of J. F. and Pauline (Fink) Prinzing, natives of Germany. The father was a brewer. He came to America and located first in Pennsylvania, where he worked for some time in a tannery; coming to Minnesota in the spring of 1878, he settled in Rice county, in Forest township. Here he bought eighty acres in section 21, and has been engaged in farming up to the present time. J. A. Prinzing acquired his education in the public schools in Pennsylvania and in district school No. 66 of Forest. After leaving school he worked on his father's farm for several years, and in 1902 bought eighty acres in section 21; this he farms, and he also has charge of his father's farm. He has two brothers and two sisters: Fred and Charles, both farmers in Forest township; Louise, now Mrs. Keeler, of Winona, and Celia, a graduate of the Northwestern Hospital, Minneapolis, where she is now employed. He is a member of the Lutheran Church, and in his political views a Republican. He has been road overseer for several years.

**James Peterka** was born in Bohemia, September 13, 1863, a son of Albert and Anna Peterka. The parents were natives of Bohemia. They came to America in 1870 and located at Cleveland, Ohio, where they remained for five years, and then came to Rice county and located in Wheatland township. Here he bought 100 acres and did a general farming up to 1885. He then retired from active work and made his home with his son James, where he still lives. The mother died in 1896. James Peterka attended the public schools at Cleveland, Ohio, and the district school at Wheatland. After leaving school he worked on the farm with his father, and in 1885 became manager of the old homestead. He has since added more acreage, and now has a farm of 220 acres.

on which he has carried on general farming up to the present time. He was married in 1885 to Annie Frejlach, a daughter of John and Annie Frejlach. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Peterka: Mary, James, and Albert; Annie, now deceased, and Annie, at home. In his political views Mr. Peterka is a Republican, and he is a member of the Catholic Church at Lonsdale. He is also a member of the A. O. U. W. and M. W. A. He has served for a number of years on the school board.

**F. C. Palon**, of Dundas, Minn., was born in Rice county January 9, 1879. He is a son of John and Mary E. (Woolery) Palon, natives of Canada. The father was a blacksmith and veterinarian. He came to Minnesota in 1868 and located in Dundas, where he followed his trade and profession up to the time of his decease, June 28, 1908. The mother still resides in Dundas. The subject of this sketch acquired his education in the public schools of Dundas. Leaving school at a young age, he followed the trade of blacksmithing until 1895, at which time he engaged in the livery business, which he still follows. This family was blessed with seven children besides our subject, viz.: John R. conducts a sale stable at Omaha, Neb.; Thomas lives at Fari-bault; Richard, engaged in the blacksmith trade at Dundas; Lela, now Mrs. Jillson, of Monoco, Wis.; Steven lives with his brother at Omaha; Hetty lives at Minneapolis, and Glen attends school at Dundas.

F. C. is a Republican. He with his family belongs to the Methodist Church. He is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He held the office as constable and village police at Dundas for six years.

**Christian Peterson**, a prosperous farmer and citizen of Webster township, Rice county, Minn., who achieved his success through diligent work, was born in Denmark, February 10, 1860. In 1881 he immigrated to this country at the age of twenty-one years, together with his parents, Peter and Anna (Anderson) Peterson, who settled in Rice county, where they lived until the death of the mother, in 1906. His father thereafter moved to Northfield, where he still resides. Our subject received his education in Denmark, where he lived until he reached his majority, whence he emigrated to this country, and settled in Castle Rock township, Dakota county. Here he remained for three years; then he came to Webster township, Rice county, and entered the employ of Mr. McCabe, in whose service he remained for three years. In 1887 he bought an eighty-acre tract of timber in Dakota township. This he cleared, improved, and still carries on general farming. A few acres of this was turned over for religious purposes and is now the site of the Danish Church at Hazelwood. In December, 1891, Mr. Peterson married Anna Thore-

son, daughter of Ole and Betsy Thoreson, who in their early days came to Minnesota and located at Eureka, Dakota county, being one of the oldest settlers there. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have one child, Oscar, who resides with his parents. Mr. Peterson is a Modern Woodman of America, a stockholder in the Star Telephone Company, and Greenville Co-operative Creamery. He is an independent voter, favoring neither party, but rather the man who in his estimation is best qualified for the office for which he is a candidate. In religious belief he is affiliated with the Lutheran Church.

**N. Parson**, a native of Sweden, was born in 1870, and came to this country with his father when a boy of sixteen years of age. His mother died when he was six years old. Mr. Parson and his father, upon their arrival in this country, first located at Stillwater; there they remained for a year, whence they moved to Webster township, Rice county, and engaged in farming. Together they cleared, improved and cultivated the farm until 1891, when the father died, leaving the son, then a young man of twenty-one to fight life's battles for himself. During the year 1892 Mr. Parson was united in marriage to Hannah Ackerson, daughter of Nels and Ellen Ackerson, also natives of Sweden, having come to this country in 1880. Mr. and Mrs. Parson had six children born to them: Oscar A., Ernst S., Edwin L., Harry D., Esther A. and Florence A. Oscar and Ernst accidentally drowned while skating on Union lake, November 29, 1906.

Mr. Parson is an industrious, enthusiastic citizen of his state, has influence having assisted them to the present standard. In political sentiments Mr. Parker favors the Republican party. He is a stockholder of the Farmers' Elevator at Northfield, in the Northfield Telephone Company, being one of the first directors to organize it, and its first manager, at present being president of the Northfield Mercantile Company. His religious belief is with the Congregational Church.

**J. H. Petteys**, a prosperous farmer and stock raiser, was born in Camden, Oneida county, N. Y., March 9, 1835. He is a son of Hiram and Susan (Brand) Petteys, who were natives of New York state. Mr. Petteys was a minister of the gospel, and moved West in 1850, locating in Rock county, Wisconsin, where he lived two years. In 1852 he moved to Boone county, Illinois, where he lived until 1854, when he went to Henry county, Illinois, and died in September, 1864. Mrs. Petteys died in 1873. Mr. Petteys received his early education in the grade schools of New York and Wisconsin, and was two years in a high school in Illinois. After leaving school he taught district schools in Illinois in the winter, and farmed in the summer. He remained in Illinois until 1865, when he came West and located in Minnesota.



buying 160 acres of land in Walcott township, Rice county. Here he carried on general farming and also did considerable stock raising, Shorthorn cattle and Poland-China hogs being his favorite breeds. He was married September 28, 1859, to Harriet West, daughter of Leonard and Harriet (Allen) West. Mr. West was a native of Saratoga county, New York, and Mrs. West a native of Connecticut. Mr. West was a farmer, running a general farm until 1868, when he retired. He was ninety-five years old at the time of his death, on October 8, 1888. Mrs. West attained the ripe old age of ninety-eight years. She died February 2, 1902. One child has blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Petteys, Ernest E., who was born on October 5, 1860. He is married and lives on the old farm of his father. Mr. Petteys is a Republican in his political views, and is a member of the Christian Church. He enlisted as a soldier in the war, but was rejected. When twenty-three years of age he was elected an assessor in Illinois, and served two terms. He was also a justice of the peace of Henry county, Illinois, which office he held until he left the state. He was supervisor of the town board of Walcott for ten years, and during the same period held the office of town clerk. He was a member of the legislature in 1876 and 1877, and served his people as county commissioner for four years. He took the census in the year 1880, and served for twenty-seven years as clerk of the school board, being elected in 1867 and serving until 1894. He assisted in organizing the Walcott Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company in 1895, and has served as their secretary and treasurer since its organization. He was secretary and treasurer of Walcott Creamery Company until 1889, when the institution was destroyed by fire and never rebuilt. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator Company.

**Harry Peasley**, a thrifty farmer of Richland township, first saw the light of day January 25, 1872. He is a son of Moses C. and Martha C. (Finlayson) Peasley, natives of Vermont and Canada, respectively. The parents came to Minnesota and located in Rice county, where the father did general farming, until he moved to Richland township. He later bought 160 acres in section 22, where he carried on general farming until the time of his death, in 1878. The mother still lives in Millerburg, Rice county. The father enlisted in Company A, Second Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served during the Civil War. The subject of this sketch was educated in the district schools of Richland township. Leaving school he went to work on his father's farm until 1899, at which time he bought the old homestead, on which he still lives, and where he carries on general and diversified farming. In 1899 Mr. Peasley married Grace, daughter of

Joe and Rose (Birch) Fredenburg. Joe Fredenburg was a native of Delaware. Rose Birch was a native of Minnesota. They came to Minnesota and located in Northfield, where the father conducted a successful meat market business, remaining there until 1879; he then moved west to Marshall, where he lived until his decease. Mrs. Fredenburg now lives at Marshall, Minn. Mr. and Mrs. Peasley have two children, named, in the respective order of their birth, Naomi and Verna, who are both at home with their parents. Mr. Peasley is not affiliated with any political party, but casts his vote to the best of his judgment, regardless of party lines. He with the family belongs to the Episcopal Church. He is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Yeomen Lodge. He is a stockholder in the Richland Creamery Association.

**Bernard R. Richter**, one of Faribault's self-made and progressive business men, is a native of Prussia, Germany, his date of birth being May 15, 1859. At seven years of age, he emigrated with his parents to America, locating at New Lisbon, Wis., and attended the public schools till 1872, when he went to Winona, Minn., receiving employment in a general mercantile store. He was then engaged in the local postoffice under D. Sinclair three years. Leaving Winona in 1879, he came to Milwaukee, and entered a grocery store, acquiring a thorough knowledge of the business, and later became connected with the Swift, Mendahl & Company wholesale grocery house as bookkeeper and cashier until his removal to St. Paul in 1889. Here he engaged in the oil business, together with Joseph Bartlett, being in strenuous competition with the Standard Oil Company, which soon decided that a good enemy would make a better ally, and gave him the position of superintendent of the Standard Oil Company of St. Paul, which he held till 1889. Mr. Richter then moved to Chippewa Falls, Wis., and took up his duties as head of the wholesale grocery establishment of Leslie Willson, in which capacity he remained five years. Removing to Faribault in 1903, he was associated with the Theopold Reid Mercantile Company until 1906, when he withdrew and started a poultry farm, which he has managed very successfully ever since, having a splendid and ever-growing market for his products in the Twin Cities and all through the state. He handles a complete line of all the well-known kinds of thoroughbred poultry, and makes a specialty of catering to particular customers. In politics he stands independent of party, always voting for the man best fitted to serve the people. His business has always demanded all his time and attention, and though he takes a keen interest in public affairs, he has never aspired to public office. The local Commercial Club knows him as an active member. He was

united in marriage with Emma W. Roth, who died December 7, 1899, leaving four sons: Bernard F., a traveling salesman of Portland, Ore.; Albert E., in the grocery business at Portland, Ore.; Fred H., with the United States Navy, now, located at Newport, R. I.; and Ralph W., of Minneapolis. He was married the second time to Bertha E. Simon, of Chippewa Falls, Wis., August 24, 1903. They have a charming home on Shumway avenue, situated on a tract of fourteen acres; August and Dora (Wolff), parents of our subject, were born and reared in Prussia, Germany, where the father was engaged as a baggage-master on one of the Imperial railways. Emigrating to America in 1866, he located in Milwaukee, Wis., being engaged as a barber for one year. He then came to New Lisbon, Wis., and continued in the same line of work in this place until his wife's demise, in 1872. Returning to Milwaukee the same year, he followed his trade till his decease, in 1907.

**Frank Revier**, business man and live stock dealer, of Northfield, was born in Bridgewater township, this county, August 31, 1869, and received his early education in the district schools, remaining on the home farm until reaching his majority, when he went to Seattle, Wash., and spent one year. He then returned home and in 1884 opened a meat market in Northfield, continuing in this business about two years and a half. He subsequently went to Lewiston, Idaho, and conducted a market one year. Upon his return he spent about four years on his farm in sections 2 and 3, Northfield township, and during this period served on the board of supervisors. In 1902 he commenced the business of buying and shipping stock, in which enterprise he has been most successful. His principal market is at South St. Paul, but he has also done considerable business in Chicago. He now resides in the city of Northfield, and stands well with his fellow citizens. Mr. Revier is a member of the Knights of Pythias, the I. O. O. F. and the M. B. of A. He was married October 5, 1898, to Bertha C. Dunlap, born in Essex county, New York, March 10, 1877.

The grandfather of Frank Revier was Gabriel Revier, and his grandmother was Mary De Rosia Revier, both natives of Canada, of French parentage. In this family there were eleven children. Gabriel Revier died while residing in New York in 1862 and in 1867 Mary De Rosia Revier brought her family to Rice county, where she died.

The father of Frank Revier was Lewis Revier, who was born on Long Sault Island, St. Lawrence county, New York, January 31, 1836. He was one of Rice county's pioneers, coming here from Canada in this spring of 1857, being employed by the late J. S. Archibald, of Dundas, to take charge of a number of horses which were being shipped from Canada to Minnesota. After it

had been decided to erect mills at Dundas, Lewis Revier was engaged to assist in gathering material for the buildings, continuing in the employ of Mr. Archibald for a number of years. December 18, 1860, he was married to Julia Barry, born in St. Johns, New Brunswick, September 12, 1841. He purchased a farm south of Dundas, but later sold this place and bought a farm in Bridgewater, two miles south of Northfield City. He enlisted in Company D, Eleventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served out his time of enlistment, receiving his honorable discharge. He then returned to his farm and there remained until the time of his death, December 7, 1900. His wife still lives in Northfield. In the family were six children: Mrs. Ignatius Rosch, of Long Prairie, Minn.; Mrs. D. J. Ferguson, who died February 5, 1903; John, of Spokane, Wash.; Edward, of Spirit Lake, Idaho; Frank and Andrew, of Northfield. The parents of Mrs. Revier (nee Bertha C. Dunlap) were Daniel and Mary Jane (Evand) Dunlap, who came to Northfield in 1884. Mrs. Dunlap died September 17, 1909, and Mr. Dunlap now lives in Washington.

**J. Warren Richardson**, retired real estate dealer and loan agent, was born in Shutesbury, July 24, 1844. He was brought to Walcott township by his parents at the age of nine years, and received his education in the public schools of Faribault. After leaving school he enlisted in the service of his country, being at that time but eighteen days over eighteen years of age. He served in Company B, Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. This regiment was organized August 1, 1862, and was originally commanded by Col. Minor T. Thomas, of Stillwater, Minn. It was stationed at frontier posts until May, 1864, when it was ordered upon the Indian expedition. It was engaged in the following battles, sieges, skirmishes and marches: Tah cha o-kut-te, July 28, 1864; Little Missouri, battle of the Cedars, Wilkinson's Pike, December 7, 1864; near Maufreesboro, December 8, 1864, and Overall's creek. Ordered to Clifton, Tenn., thence to Cincinnati, thence to Washington, thence to Wilmington, then to Newbern, N. C.; at the battles of Kingston, March 8, 9, 10, 1865. The men were mustered out at Charlotte, N. C., July 11, 1865, and discharged at Ft. Snelling Minn. After this Mr. Richardson returned to Faribault, and in 1866 took up farming inside the city limits. He owned seventy acres, on which he conducted general agricultural pursuits, making a specialty of dairying until 1891, when he engaged in the money loaning business. In 1900 his business was enlarged to include real-estate dealing. In 1903 Mr. Richardson went to Beach, N. D., remaining until 1908, when he retired and returned to Faribault, where he has since resided, having a beautiful home at 314 Sixth street, West. He



owns 160 acres in North Dakota and 260 acres in Walcott township. While Mr. Richardson was in North Dakota he served as a supervisor of the township of Beach. He has served in minor offices in Rice county. As a veteran Mr. Richardson is interested in the Michael Cook Post, No. 123, G. A. R., and is now serving as quartermaster of that post. In religious belief Mr. Richardson is a Baptist. Mr. Richardson was married April 16, 1866, at Minneapolis, Minn., to Elizabeth S. Kerr, of Faribault, Minn., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Kerr, of Dane county, Wisconsin. She was born November 19, 1844, and died June 24, 1890, leaving five children: Carrie R., born February 18, 1867, married to W. M. Smalledge, of Minneapolis; George W., born April 30, 1869, now of Beach, N. D.; Emma L., born March 12, 1872, married to Clifton A. Snell, of Minneapolis; J. Edwin, born December 24, 1882, now of Beach, N. D., and Gilbert A., born May 17, 1887, a telegraph operator in British Columbia. Mr. Richardson was married August 25, 1891, to Laura S. Van Horn, born December 18, 1846, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Van Horn, who came to Faribault in 1856.

The parents of J. Warren Richardson were Joseph and Louise (Boynton) Richardson, natives of Shutesbury, Mass. The father, who was a lumberman in the East, came West in 1854, and took up his abode in Walcott township, where he pre-empted 160 acres in section 28. After occupying this claim nearly two years, he sold his pre-emption claim to Samuel Walcott, from whom the town was named. Joseph Richardson was the first postmaster in Walcott township, and at his house Elder Cressy, of the Baptist Church, held the first religious ceremony in the township. On coming to Faribault, Mr. Richardson, Sr., started manufacturing chairs, and later he entered the furniture factory of Hill & Brockway, remaining several years. He went East in 1866 and returned in 1867, managing a loan office until his death, February 10, 1889, seventy-five years after his birth, February 27, 1814. His wife died July 13, 1892.

**Willard McC. Reid**, a progressive young business man of Faribault, was born in Louisiana, Pike county, Mo., September 30, 1877. He attended the public schools and took a course in the Hasbrook Institute in New Jersey. From there he went to the historic Phillips Andover Academy, at Andover, Mass., graduating in 1898. He then accepted a situation with the P. P. Lorillard Tobacco Company, in Jersey City, N. J., and in 1899, when that company was absorbed by the American Tobacco Company, he went with the latter concern as assistant manager of the salesmen's department. In 1901 he went with the American Cigar Company, as manager of a factory at Savannah, Ga. After eighteen months, he left that place, and for three years was

located in several cities in the South, superintending the erection and opening of new factories. In 1905 he came to Faribault, and became a partner in the concern of Theopold-Reid Company, Inc., wholesale grocers, of which Mr. Reid is vice-president and treasurer. Being a lover of outdoor sports, Mr. Reid has taken an active interest in the Tetepaha Golf Club, and is at the present time serving as its president. He is also a member of the Minnesota Club of St. Paul, and of the Faribault Commercial Club. Mr. Reid was married at Faribault, in the Cathedral of Our Merciful Savior, October 9, 1905, to Natalie Rochester Bill, daughter of Rev. Edward Clark Bill, a prominent Episcopalian clergyman. To Mr. and Mrs. Reid have been born two children: Priscilla, born July 23, 1906, and Natalie E., born December 9, 1908. The family residence is a beautiful dwelling at the corner of Seventh street and Fifth avenue.

Samuel Reid, father of Willard McC. Reid, was born in Kentucky. He was a tobacco manufacturer in Missouri, and in 1888 went to Jersey City, N. J., where he became general manager for the P. P. Lorillard Tobacco Company. In 1898 he retired from active life, coming to St. Paul in 1907. His wife, Ann Eliza Young, was also a native of Kentucky. She died at Jersey City, September 30, 1905.

**Henry H. Roth** was born in Lee county, Iowa, September 5, 1849. At the age of eight years he came with his parents to Wheeling township, Rice county, receiving his education in the district schools and in the public schools of Faribault. After school he engaged in farming for a time with his father, later managing a rented farm till 1884, when he located near Faribault, continuing in general diversified farming. He was next employed for over eight years as a bookkeeper in Faribault, and then, in 1905, opened a store in the same city, in which he has remained ever since, having been very successful and doing a large and flourishing business. The Republican party claims his allegiance in political matters, and though he has never sought office, he has held the position of road overseer for many years. December 18, 1873, he was married to Sophia Hildeburd, of Goodhue county, who died June 29, 1896, leaving five children: Benjamin J., Carrie, Adda, Emma and Florence. Three others, Sarah, Gertrude and Herbert, died in early youth. The family are loyal attendants of the German Methodist Church. Jacob and Barbara Roth, parents of Henry H., were born and reared in Beyer, Germany. Coming to America in 1844, they first located in Ohio, farming it for two years, and then removed to Lee county, Iowa, where the father wrested a living from the soil after the fashion of those pioneer days, until 1857. They then came to Wheeling township, Rice county, being among the first settlers, and con-

tinued in farming till their removal many years later to Faribault, where the father lived to enjoy the fruits of a well-spent life till 1892. The mother passed away in 1905.

**Peter F. Ruge**, a native of Holstein, Germany, was born February 17, 1842. He received his education in the public schools of Germany, after which he learned the milling trade, following this line until he emigrated to America in 1868. Arriving in America, he came to Minnesota and located at Faribault, where he was employed as a clerk in a general store for some time. Later he bought out his employer and conducted the business in his own name till 1880. During this time, besides attending to his mercantile affairs, he found leisure to devote to farming interests which he had acquired. In 1880 he entered into the loan, insurance and real-estate business, representing eight different insurance companies, and also handling foreign tickets to and from the European countries. Mr. Ruge has been actively engaged in this business ever since, meeting with a very marked degree of success, and has become known as one of Faribault's squarest and most energetic business men. He is a very active member of the Democratic party, and has always taken a deep interest in the affairs of the community. The esteem in which he is held by his fellow townsmen is well evidenced by the numerous offices with which he has been honored. At present he is a county commissioner, serving his second term, elected with no opposition; has served as alderman four years; mayor of the city of Faribault three terms; he was nominated for the fourth term, but refused the nomination for business reasons; member of the board of health; director in the Commercial Club; president of the Harmonia Singing Society, and has also served as president of the Bundes of Minnesota Singing Society. He was married January 28, 1869, in Germany, to Anna M. Voss, making the trip especially to get his bride. Mr. and Mrs. Ruge have a fine home in the residence section of Faribault, located on the corner of First street and Central avenue. Three children live to survive their mother, whose decease occurred February 15, 1890: John H., a jeweler at Faribault; W. H., special agent for the Northwestern Underwriters' Fire Insurance Company, also located at Faribault; and Telsha, wife of Edwin R. Fleckenstein, of Faribault. John H. and Trina (Schuelter) Ruge, parents of our subject, were both natives of Germany and carried on general farming there until the father's death in 1854. The mother died in 1846.

**Ethan Rollins** is a successful business man of Faribault, where he has lived since early boyhood. He was born in Houston county, Minnesota, August 4, 1857. His parents, Stanley and Adeline (Newton) Rollins, both natives of Minnesota, removed

to Faribault in 1877, where the father, who was reared a farmer, conducted a potash distillery until his decease in 1884. Ethan acquired his education in the public schools of Faribault, and after leaving school helped in his father's business, and after his father's death managed the business for his mother some seven years. He then worked as a painter fifteen years and in 1899 engaged in the oil business and carried on a successful trade in that line till 1906, when he bought the grocery business which he has since conducted and in which he is now successfully engaged. He has always devoted himself closely to his business and has had little leisure for outside affairs. In politics he adheres to the principles of the Republican party. His religious faith is that of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

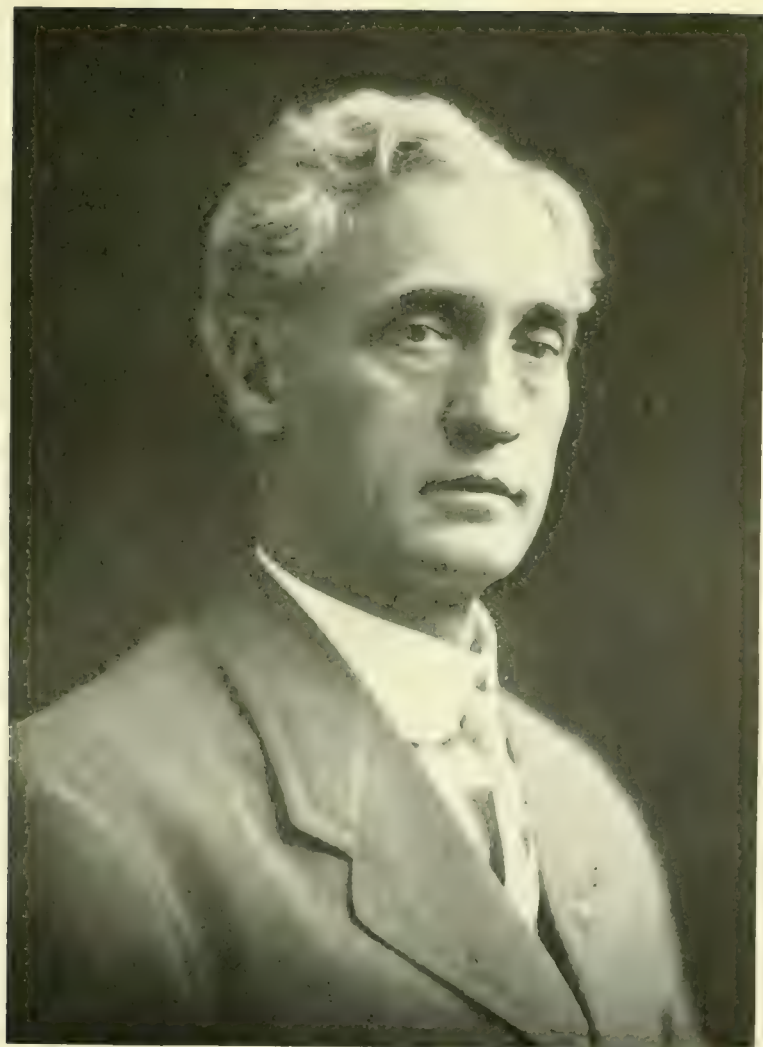
On June 1, 1899, Mr. Rollins married Addie, a daughter of Mathias and Ellen (Anson) Warren, both natives of Wisconsin. The father was a farmer all his life and died at Clear Lake, Wis., in 1906; the mother died in 1884. Mr. and Mrs. Rollins have two children, named, respectively, Audley B. and Dorothy E.

**Joseph J. Rachac**, a native of Belle Plaine township, Scott county, Minn., was born December 1, 1874. He acquired his education in the public schools of New Prague, Minn., afterwards attending the St. Paul Business College of St. Paul, Minn., for two years, and in 1891 he graduated from the commercial department of St. John's University, of Collegeville, Minn. His school days over, he entered the bank at New Prague as a bookkeeper, and remained in that position till the fall of 1892, when he was elected principal of the public schools of Veseli, which position he ably filled for ten years. Mr. Rachac then became deputy county treasurer, holding that office until his election as county auditor in 1904. This position he held until January 1, 1909. In 1907 he accepted the position he now holds, of assistant cashier of the Citizens' National Bank, attending to his duties as county auditor as well, making him an exceedingly busy man for two years. Mr. Rachac owns a large amount of property in Rice county, having a half interest in a store at Veseli, owns a two-thirds interest in the Veseli Creamery and is a stockholder of the Citizens' National Bank of Faribault. He is a believer in the principles of the Republican party, and has always taken an active part in the affairs of the community. He is a valued member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and is a follower of the Catholic Church. May 18, 1898, at Veseli, he was united in marriage to Anna F. Pavcek, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Pavcek, prominent residents of the village of Veseli. They have two children, Sadie A. and Edith, both living at home. Frank J. and Josephine (Shimota) Rachac, parents of our subject, were



born in Bohemia. The father emigrated to America with his parents in 1863, locating in Belle Plaine township, Scott county, Minn. The mother followed in 1867. Commencing at the age of nineteen, Frank J. worked up and down the Mississippi for six years, having the usual exciting and sometimes perilous experiences incident to life on the river at that time. He then returned to the old homestead in Belle Plaine township, where he was married, and took up general diversified farming and threshing, having the first steam thresher in that locality. In 1882 he sold the farm and removed to Traill county, North Dakota, where he resided for two years. In 1885 he returned to Rice county, locating in the village of Veseli, and purchased the general store of Joseph Maertz, where he has followed the general mercantile business ever since.

**Dr. Arthur C. Rogers**, superintendent of the Minnesota State School for the Feeble-Minded, located at Faribault, is an acknowledged authority on the subject of mental deficiency in human beings, and his efforts in the behalf of bettering the conditions and increasing the value of the feeble-minded to society at large have won him a nation-wide reputation. In spite of his multitudinous duties, which demand so much of his time, Dr. Rogers is democratic and approachable, and has taken a deep interest in the welfare of the city of Faribault, outside of those interests with which he is officially associated. Arthur C. Rogers was born in Decorah, Iowa, July 17, 1856, and received his early education in the schools of Ohio and Michigan. After completing his preliminary studies, he took a course at the Raisin Valley Seminary, near Adrian, Mich., and then entered the Earlham College at Richmond, Ind., from which he graduated in 1877, with the degree of B. S. This college conferred the degree of LL. D. upon Dr. Rogers in June, 1905, in recognition of his work for the feeble-minded. During his first and third years at this college he did considerable tutoring in elementary chemistry, and after graduating he taught the village school at Fairmont, Kan. The following year he took charge of a country store at Fairmont for a time, and then accepted a position as head bookkeeper in a large mercantile store at Glenwood, Iowa, June, 1879. In October of the same year he became bookkeeper in the Iowa State School for the Feeble-Minded at Glenwood, a position he held five years. During this time, having decided upon the care of the unfortunate as his life work, he studied medicine at the State University of Iowa, at Iowa City, graduating in 1883 with the degree of M. D. His first practice as a physician was in the latter part of 1883 and the early part of 1884, when he was clerk and physician for the government training school for Indians, Chemawa, Ore. His work in this capacity was of such merit



DR. A. C. ROGERS



as to attract commendable attention, and while there he received appointment as superintendent of the State School for the Feeble-Minded at Faribault, arriving in this city August 20, 1885, and at once entering upon his duties. At that time the institution was comparatively small, having an enrollment of ninety. In the years that have passed since then, during which the capacity has been augmented to 1,300, and the enrollment 1,225, Dr. Rogers has proven himself equal to every emergency, and has under all circumstances proven himself pre-eminently fitted for the serious responsibilities of his office. Following are some of Dr. Rogers' professional and social affiliations: Member of the Masonic order, having taken the thirty-second degree; member of the Royal Arcanum; serving second year as president of the Rice County Medical Association; now serving second year as president of the board of trustees of the Faribault Congregational Church; member of the Faribault Commercial Club; member of the programme committee of the quarterly conference of the state board of control and superintendents of state institutions; ex-president of the Minnesota state conference of charities and corrections; first vice-president of the Minnesota Academy of Political Science; secretary of the American Association for the Study of the Feeble-Minded; member of American Medico-Psychological Association; member American Association for the Advancement of Science; member of the American Association for the Study of Epilepsy; chairman of the sub-committee on defecture of the committee on eugenics of the American Breeders' association; member of the National Conference of Charity and Correction, having during the past twenty years served as chairman of the committee on feeble-minded for this conference at different times. In former years, Dr. Rogers served as a member of Company B, Fifth Regiment, Iowa National Guard, of which he was first lieutenant. For two years he was president of the Travelers' Club, a Faribault association which includes many minds of breeding and of learning.

Arthur C. Rogers was married July 17, 1882, at Fort Dodge, Kan., to Phœbe Coffin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Coffin. Five children have blessed their union: Arthur K. died in infancy; Elloise H. is now studying music at the Lachmund Conservatory of Music in New York City; Margueretta died in infancy; Helen L. is a student at the Minnesota State University; Arthur W. lives at home and attends the graded schools of Faribault. In addition to his other duties, Dr. Rogers is editor-in-chief of the "Journal of Psycho-Asthenics," published at the institution, organ of the American Association for the Study of the Feeble-Minded. The parents of Dr. Rogers were Ansel and Cynthia (Benedict) Rogers, who came West in the early fifties



and located in Iowa in 1852. The father was a clergyman of the Society of Friends, and was a miller practically all his life. He died in Richmond, Ind., in 1873, and the mother died near Ash-ley, Ohio, in 1863.

**C. A. Reed**, of Dundas, was born in Canada, March 5, 1847, son of Alanson and Elizabeth (Bridges) Reed. The father spent his early life in Canada, where he was married, and later moved to the United States, and engaged in farming in Wisconsin. He died in 1902. His father, Salyerine Reed, was born in this country, and lived to the advanced age of 106 years. C. A. Reed received his early education in the common schools of Wisconsin and later attended Marshall Academy, at Marshall, Wis. After completing his studies, he took up different lines of work, and subsequently went to Kansas in 1870 and spent two years for the benefit of his health, after which he returned to Wisconsin. In 1873 he came to Minnesota and located in Rice county, where he engaged in farming near Dundas, until 1896, when he retired from the farm and has since made his home in the village. He held several offices in the county, having been county surveyor for thirteen years, and superintendent of the state highways in the county. He is now serving as justice of the peace and is also a member of the village council. He is an independent voter. December 19, 1874, he was united in marriage to Olive T. Enis, a native of Canada, and to them have been born six children: Jessie, married to Otto Bolhman, a farmer; Teressa, married to Rev. W. S. Gosman, who is the principal of the Mount Ellis Academy, at Bozeman, Mont.; John E., who is a railroad engineer, and has spent part of his time in Alaska; Salyerine, who lives at Bozeman, Mont.; Luella, who is a trained nurse, and Harl K., both of whom are at Bozeman, Mont. Mr. Reed is a highly respected citizen, who has acquired his possessions by hard work, and is now enjoying the benefits of his labors. He still resides at Dundas.

**Hiram H. Reed**, a native of Wayne county, Pennsylvania, was born May 25, 1830, and is one of the four survivors of a family of fourteen children (twelve of whom grew to maturity) born to John and Mary (Curtis) Reed. The father was a farmer and died at the age of fifty-two years. The mother was of Revolutionary stock, and lived to the age of seventy years. The other survivors are: Mrs. Catherine Smith, of Park Rapids, Minn.; Mr. Morris Reed, of Wayne county, Pennsylvania, and Mrs. Amanda Schaver, who lives in Kansas. Hiram H. worked on his father's farm and attended the district school, but when sixteen years of age began railroading on the Washington Railroad, running over the mountains from Holly to Dunmore, and until he was twenty-one was engaged in repair work on a construction

train. He was next employed on the Michigan Central Railroad, running from Detroit to Michigan City, and when that road was extended to Chicago he was baggagemaster on the first train that entered that city, it being a mixed train, under the charge of Conductor Phelps. In the spring of 1852 he went to Galena, Ill., and thence down the Mississippi to St. Louis, and from there to St. Joe, Mo., where he joined a large body of gold-seekers, and under the direction of an Indian guide made the trip overland by ox and horse teams to California, the journey taking fifty-five days. After reaching his destination, Mr. Reed hired out for one month for fifty dollars, then began work for himself, and for six years was engaged in mining on his own account, using all the various methods, from mining by hand to hydraulic hose mining, and had all the experiences that fell to the lot of the hardy pioneer miner of those days. On his return he went from San Francisco by boat to Panama, crossed the isthmus, and thence by boat, 1,900 miles to New York, and from there 130 miles to his early home in Pennsylvania. Continuing his trade after his visit home, he went via the lakes to Three Rivers, Mich.; from there through Chicago to Dubuque, Iowa, then by boat up the Mississippi to Hastings, and from there to Morristown, Minn., bought a span of mules and took up the northwest quarter of school section 36, in Morristown township, Rice county, being accompanied by his brother-in-law, Thomas J. Dexter. He subsequently gave up this location and bought 210 acres in section 13, and settled down to the work of opening and improving the land and making a home, where he lived until his retirement from farm life and removal to the village of Warsaw, in 1896. In the early days he endured all the hardships and inconveniences incident to pioneer life in a new country. Farming was carried on in the primitive ways, mowing being done with the scythe, grain being cut with a cradle and raked and bound by hand, and wheat being hauled to market at Hastings with ox teams, and sold for 45 cents per bushel. But with hardy courage and endurance, Mr. Reed faced and overcame obstacles, and lives to enjoy the well earned fruits of his busy and strenuous life. He carried on general farming and in later days was noted as a breeder of fine cattle and hogs and a raiser of sheep. Since selling his farm and his removal to the village, Mr. Reed has devoted himself to looking after his property there. For many years Mr. Reed has been identified with the Masonic order, being a member of Cannon River Lodge, No. 52, at Morristown. On March 16, 1857, Mr. Reed married Lydia L. Wilder, a daughter of Samuel Wilder, of Wayne county, Pennsylvania, who died October 20, 1893. Of six children born to them, the eldest, Nina, is married to Mr. J. Cassell; George lives at Michigan, N. D.; Minnie is the wife of

Mr. Thomas Moffett, Faribault; Edward has his home in Michigan, N. D.; May is married to Mr. Edwin Davis, and Catherine, who lives in Utah. On November 16, 1897, Mr. Reed married Mrs. Belle Cheney, the widow of Mr. W. H. Cheney. Her maiden name was Wood, and she has had three children by her former marriage, viz.: Mattie Arliza, who is married to Mr. F. B. Kinyon, a young lawyer of Boise City, Idaho; John is a farmer at Beaver Falls, Minn., and Cynthia M., who died in early womanhood. Mrs. Reed is a member of the Episcopal Church at Warsaw.

**Alfred Quist** was born in Sweden, January 21, 1859. In 1875 he came to America, and worked for four years on a farm in Goodhue county. In 1879 he came to Rice county and located in Forest township, buying 160 acres, and later an additional forty acres in Forest township, on which he has done general farming up to the present time. In 1890 he was married to Ida Matilda Johnson. They have a family of seven children: Esther, Elmer, Marie, Emma, Hobert, Lenhart and Gladys, all living at home with their parents. In politics Mr. Quist is a Republican, and he is a member of the Lutheran Church. He has held many offices in the township.

**Maxson S. Randall**, who was born in Fulton county, Ohio, March 16, 1835, is the oldest of four children born to Russell and Amanda (Gunn) Randall, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Massachusetts. They were married in Ohio, whither the father, who was a master cooper, miller and cabinet-maker, came and thence went to Illinois, after which he returned to Pennsylvania, and thence back to Illinois. He returned with his family to Rice county, Minnesota, in 1855, settling on a claim of 160 acres in Warsaw township, where he built a log house and established the family home, and where he died in May, 1857, his widow surviving him forty years. Of their other three children, Annie is married to Henry C. Masters, and lives in Lyon county, Minnesota; Horace lives with his family in Minneapolis, and Sewell G. died in the Civil War, a member of Company I, Fourth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. Our subject attended the public schools in Illinois and Pennsylvania, and after leaving school engaged in farming. He went to Nebraska City in 1859, and then for eight years was engaged under government contracts with Messrs. Russell, Majors and Waddell, carrying supplies for the army, across the plains. Returning to Rice county in 1867, he bought the family homestead and turned his attention to general farming. Under his management the place has been thoroughly and completely remodeled, new buildings have been erected and everything added in the way of equipment that is required in an up-to-date model farm, particular attention

having been given to the matter of stocking the place with high grade horses, cattle and swine. In 1904 Mr. Randall retired from the farm and since then has lived in the village of Warsaw. He has long been a leading man in the community, and has served three terms in the village council of Morristown. He is an active Mason and belongs to Cannon River Lodge, No. 52, of Morristown. In political sentiment he is a Democrat. His religious affiliations are with the Methodist Episcopal Church. In May, 1867, Mrs. Randall married Abi Davis, who died in February, 1872. Of two children born to them, Bettie, the oldest, was married to Mr. K. Holbrook, and died in 1873. Therese died in infancy.

In March, 1873, Mr. Randall married Mary, a daughter of John and Mary (Schonfield) Davis, both natives of Vermont, who settled in Minnesota, where the father died in 1880 and the mother in ——. Of five children born of this marriage, the eldest, Waldo, was killed by an accident on a wind mill; Mary died when three years old, and Olive died at the age of eighteen months; Rufus lives at home, and Ethel is married to Mr. James Waldon, and lives in Morristown.

**Henry Remick** was born in Harting county, Ohio, December 11, 1859. He is a son of Joseph and Elizabeth Remick, natives of Germany. They came to America in the forties and located in Ohio, where the father worked out on a farm. In 1867 he came to Minnesota, and settled in Erin township, Rice county, and farmed there until 1907, when he sold his farm and bought in Forest township, where he now lives. Mrs. Remick died in February, 1901. Mr. Remick attended the public schools in Shieldsville, and after leaving school worked on a farm. In 1887 he bought 107 acres in section 18, and later eighty acres in section 20. He now lives on section 18 and does general farming. He was married in 1890, to Sophia Deman, a daughter of Christian and Johanna Deman, the parents being natives of Germany who emigrated to this country. Five children have blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Remick: Henry, George, Fred, Mary and William. Mr. Remick is a member of the Lutheran church. In his political views he is an independent voter. He has served on the town board, and is now serving on the school board. He is a stockholder in the Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Company of Faribault.

**Rev. John J. Slevin**, the popular and beloved pastor of the Church of the Immaculate Conception, at Faribault, Minn., was born in County Longford, Ireland, March 4, 1855, where he passed his boyhood days. He received his early education in the classical schools of Longford, and in 1873, entered the All Hallam College at Dublin, where he completed his training for



his life work. Leaving "the ould sod" in 1878, he came to America, and took up his profession at Shakopee, Minn., having the pastorate of St. Mary's Church there for a year and a half. He was called to Shieldsville, Rice county, in 1880, to take charge of St. Patrick's Church, having a membership of over 600, and remained here for two years, endearing himself to the hearts of the people. His rare ability demanded a larger field, however, and in 1900 he removed to Faribault, engaging upon his duties as head of the Church of the Immaculate Conception, where he has ever since been. Reverend Slevin is greatly esteemed by the 1,200 members of his congregation, and wields a wide influence in the community. In connection with the church there is a parish school having over 200 pupils, which he directs.

**Benjamin Saufferer**, a prominent citizen of Faribault, Minn., was born on his father's farm in Waseca county, January 6, 1874. After his education in the district schools, he took up farming with his father until 1898, and then had complete charge of the old home farm for one year, afterwards removing to Faribault county, Minnesota, and engaging in farming two years. Coming to Warsaw township, Rice county, he purchased a 160-acre tract and continued in general mixed farming with much success till 1908, when he rented his farm and, moving to Faribault, bought his beautiful modern home, located on First street, South, and Sixth avenue, where he now resides with his family. In politics he usually supports the Republican party, but believes the best interests of the community should prevail, regardless of party. He served as a director on the local school board while a resident of Warsaw township. February 16, 1898, at Morristown, Minn., he was married to Caroline L. Reineke, born March 23, 1879, by whom he has two children: Walter J., born May 26, 1899, in Faribault county, and Myron W., born August 8, 1903, in Rice county, and died March 19, 1905. The family attend the German Methodist Church. John L. and Henrietta (Miller) Saufferer, parents of Benjamin, were natives of Wurtemberg, Germany. Emigrating to this country in their younger days, they first located in Ohio, and then in Illinois. Afterwards, in the early sixties, they settled in Waseca county, near the Steele county line, the father engaging in farming on his 720-acre farm till his death, November 23, 1906. His wife still lives on the old homestead. Henry and Caroline (Fehmer) Reineke, parents of Mrs. Benjamin Saufferer, were born in Hanover and Mecklenburg, Germany, respectively. Coming to America, they first settled in Illinois, later removing to Steele county, in the early sixties, where the father followed farming till their retirement to Morristown, Rice county, their present place of residence.

**Carlton W. Sanford** was an honored and respected citizen of Faribault, Minn., a native of Belfast, Alleghany county, N. Y., his date of birth being February 22, 1835. He received his education in the public schools of his birthplace, and at the age of thirteen years emigrated West with his parents, settling in Walmuth county, Wisconsin. Here he passed the rest of his boyhood days, and later was in the drug business for some time. Then he returned to his native state and was engaged in photography there until his removal to California, where he followed mining for five years, meeting and overcoming the obstacles and privations common to those rough pioneer times. Coming East, he located in Richland township, Rice county, on a farm of 400 acres and gave his attention to general diversified farming till 1883, when he sold out and removed to Faribault, going into the insurance business, which he conducted until his death, in April, 1910. He also conducted a sixty-acre farm within the city limits. Mr. Sanford was in his seventy-fifth year, and very clearly remembered the experiences and perils of the early times, especially those of the Indian Outbreak in which he bore arms against the savages. In politics, he adheres to the principles of the Republican party. He served as supervisor of his township in Walmuth county, Wisconsin. He was a member of the Congregational church. January 8, 1863, he was united in marriage with Sarah Vose, of Wisconsin, daughter of Gilman and Olive (Nicholas) Vose, who have since deceased. Five children have blessed this marriage, named in order of births, respectively: Stella Honegate, of Minneapolis; Winnie E., a stenographer of Minneapolis; Carlton C. who is a real estate dealer of Minneapolis; Mrs. Sadie O. Franz, of Denver, Colorado; and Morton W., who is a printer at Faribault. Abram and Susan (Wadsworth) Sanford, parents of our subject, were born and raised in New York, and followed farming as an occupation all their lives—first in their native state, then in Wisconsin, later returning East again, then west to Wisconsin, finally locating in Rice county where they deceased.

**Willis Sheridan Shaft**, a prominent business man at Faribault, Minn., was born at Elmyra, Chemung county, New York, July 15, 1865. His education was received in the public schools of Hastings, Minn. where he removed with his parents from New York when six years of age. When eleven years old, he was given employment as a newsboy on the Hastings & Dakota Railway, in which capacity he served for two years. He was then employed in the "Hastings Gazette" office for some five years and became pretty well versed in the printing business.

In 1884, he went to Aberdeen, S. D., and embarked in a general merchandise business. Two years later he opened a retail

shoe store under the style of "Shaft, the Shoe Man," and built up a large and thriving business there, which he continued until 1891, when he engaged in the shoe manufacturing business in connection with the retail store. A year later, Mr. Shaft sold out his retail business and removed the manufacturing plant to Minneapolis, Minn., and in 1903, transferred his establishment to Faribault, where he has continued the manufacture of shoes to the present time. His company, known as the Shaft-Pierce Shoe Company, has won a wide reputation for its goods throughout the entire northwest, having a steadily increasing call for its product. They now operate to the full capacity, a large plant at Faribault covering a floor space of 25,000 square feet. The success of the business is largely due to the efforts of its president, Mr. Shaft.

He is also vice president of the Hathaway-Shaft Shoe Company of Minneapolis, Minn., shoe jobbers. The Republican party values him as a staunch supporter, and he is interested in all that pertains to the welfare of his city, county and state. He is at present serving as a director of the Faribault commercial club and is also a member of the Minneapolis commercial club. Numerous fraternal organizations count him an active supporter of their respective associations, including the Masonic Order, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and the Cathedral club, of which he is president. While in Aberdeen, Mr. Shaft was associated with the Pioneer Builders of that city, a member of the fire department, a member of the common council and of the school board.

On May 15, 1889, at Aberdeen, S. D., he was united in marriage with Emma May Callender, born February 21, 1867, to Mr. and Mrs. James C. Callender, of Harvard, Ill. The father deceased in 1880, and the mother in November, 1908. Mr. and Mrs. Shaft have three children; Dorothy H., born December 23, 1904, Willard S., born April 30, 1907, and Helen G., who was born December 8, 1908. The family have a beautiful home on the corner of Fifth avenue and Seventh street. As to religious faith, they adhere to the tenets of the Episcopal catholic church. Alpheus D. Shaft, father of our subject, was a native of England; Margaret M. (Curtis) Shaft, his mother, was born in Pennsylvania, but of Scotch descent. The father came to America from his home in Shaftesbury, Eng., at the age of six years, with his parents locating in New York where he received his education. After finishing school he held different positions on the Erie Railroad, and was master of mechanics for this company at the time of his death, in November, 1867. The mother died August 16, 1898.

**Warren Smith**, sole proprietor and owner of the Faribault Cement and Pavement Works, was born in Monroe township, Waldo county, Maine, December 31, 1849.

At an early age, he emigrated West with his parents who located in Forest township, Rice county, Minnesota, and here he passed his boyhood, having the usual experiences of a farmer boy in those pioneer times and acquiring his education in the district schools and in the public schools of Faribault. After school, he worked with his father on the home farm until he arrived at his majority, and then entered the Polar Star Mills, of Faribault, in which he thoroughly learned the miller's trade during the following two years. Removing to Medford, Steele county, he continued in his chosen vocation for the next three years, subsequently locating in Owatonna four years, and then two years in Janesville, Minn., all the while being engaged in his former line of work. In 1886, he returned to Faribault, being connected with the Sheffield Mills for a year and then with a mill at New Prague for six months. In 1888, he again returned to Faribault and bought out the cement works, now known as the Faribault Cement and Pavement Works, of which he is still sole owner and proprietor, engaging in general cement contracting and building in which he has been very successful, catering to a large and growing trade, and employing from six to fourteen men constantly. As to politics, the Republican party claims his allegiance, though he has never aspired to public office. He is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America, the Mystic Toilers, and has been associated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows for the past thirty-five years. December 27, 1876, at Faribault, he was married to Rosana Van Osdale, of Wells township. They have three children: Arthur L., born November 20, 1877, now in business with his father, served in the Spanish American War and afterwards remained in the regular army seven years; Ella L., born March 1, 1879, died October 27, 1881; Elda R., born February 28, 1886, is the wife of C. F. Britt and has one child, Gerald L.; and Arthur, married to Helfreda Faugher, is engaged at present with the city of Faribault as City Inspector, inspecting Portland cement and tests of cement and brick business. The family residence is located at 623 First street, West. They attend worship at the Methodist Episcopal church. Hugh and Huldah (Garland), parents of our subject were natives of Maine, where the father followed farming. Coming West in April, 1855, they settled in Forest township, Rice county, and homesteaded a quarter section of wild land, which the father subdued and cultivated under the trying conditions of those pioneer days, being engaged in **general farming until his death, December 21, 1885.** The mother



passed away August 25, of the following year. Mrs. Warren Smith is a daughter of Simon and Elizabeth Van Osdale, the father following farming in Wells township, Rice county, up to the time of his death in '97. His wife deceased in 1872.

**D. F. A. Skinner**, a wideawake business man of Faribault, Minn., was born July 15, 1869, in Chatauqua county, New York. His early education was received in the district schools of his native county, supplementing this with a course in the State Normal School at Fredonia, N. Y., and later being graduated from a school of business in Burlington, Iowa. His school days over he held several positions in Burlington until '88, when he enlisted in Company E, Third Regiment of Infantry of the United State Regular Army, participating in the campaigns of '88 and '89 against the Sioux Indians, and receiving his baptism of fire in an engagement at Fort Custer, near the scene of the gallant General Custer's last stand. After two years service, he was honorably discharged and came to St. Paul, being connected with various wholesale houses until 1892, when he became interested in a wholesale harness and saddlery business, the company being retired during the financial depression of the following year. In 1895, he removed to Walcott township, Rice county, and six years later came to Faribault, and started a creamery and ice cream business on First avenue, North, his increasing business soon compelling him to seek larger quarters in a two story brick building, situated on Second street, between Central and First avenues. The building is admirably adapted to the uses to which it is put, being thoroughly modern and sanitary in every respect, and ideally equipped to handle his extensive and ever-growing trade in the retailing of milk and cream, butter and ice-cream—which he manufactures, and apples, eggs and dairy produce. Mr. Skinner also has comfortable apartments in the same structure, occupied by himself and family as residence. In politics, he inclines towards the tenets of the Republican party, being a firm believer in protection by tariff. The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Ancient Order of United Workmen count him a valued member of their respective organizations. October 18, 1893, he was united in marriage with Nellie B. Cowden, of Fredonia, N. Y., by whom he has two children: Lillian Louise, born in St. Paul, September 23, 1894, and Genevieve Cowden, born February 19, 1897, in Walcott township.

Addison A. and Laura (Tambling) Skinner, parents of our subjects, were born and reared in New York State. The father served two enlistments in the War of the Rebellion, being once mustered out on account of light weight. He met his death in the service of his country at Fort Snelling. He was a college

graduate, and while in civil life was engaged in farming in Chautauqua county, New York. His wife died in 1881.

**Everett Spear**, one of the substantial men of Northfield, Minn., comes of sturdy New England stock, and numbers among his direct ancestors three great grandfathers who served in the Revolutionary War. He is a native of Racine, Wis., and was born May 9, 1844, to Edward and Mary (Sawyer) Spear, who removed from Vermont, their native state to Wisconsin in the early thirties. The father was a manufacturer by trade; but in his later life he engaged in farming, and died at Wyocena, Wis. Our subject acquired a common school education and taught school one year. In 1864 he enlisted in Company F, First Heavy Artillery, and was assigned to duty with the Army of the Potomac, and guarded the Forts around Alexandria. After his honorable discharge, at the close of the War, at Milwaukee, he returned to his home, and in 1866 removed to Rice county and for a number of years was engaged in farming in Northfield township with good success. He also, in addition handled all kinds of farm implements. He was thus engaged different times till 1880, and the following year had a position with the St. Paul Harvester Works which he held till the latter part of 1882. He sold his farm of one hundred and sixty acres in 1894.

Mr. Spear next turned his attention to well drilling, operating two machines. He conducted this line of work eight years, covering almost the entire county. Since 1887 he has made his home in Northfield, having forty-five acres of land within the city limits; and here he carries on dairy farming, having a fine lot of Jersey cows, selling his products to the creamery at Northfield, in which he is a stockholder. Mr. Spear built a number of houses in Northfield and is counted among her enterprising citizens. He has been a member of the school board of district No. 78 a number of years, and at the present time—1910—is a member of the common council of the city. In politics he is independent. Since this was written without being a candidate or having his name on the ballot he received 316 votes for Mayor and came near being elected. There was two candidates with their names on the ballot, Dr. W. A. Hunt, and R. D. Barrett.

On November 22, 1871, Mr. Spear married Miss Lizzie A. daughter of Lambert and Martha (Martin) Watts. Of two children born to Mr. and Mrs. Spear, the elder, Lambert E. is a manufacturer of gasoline engines, Maude is married to Mr. D. D. Brubaker.

**John W. Snyder**, whose varied experiences have given him an extensive knowledge of affairs, is one of the prosperous busi-

ness men of Faribault, Minn. He was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, August 10, 1858, to Casper and Elizabeth (Lyford) Snyder, natives of Germany. The father was a wood turner by trade and on coming to this country settled first at Cincinnati where he married, and thence moved to Watertown, Wis. In 1867 he went to Faribault and for a time was employed in the Wandel Fruit Factory in various kinds of work. He afterwards followed his trade in St. Paul and removed to Rochester, Minn., where he died in 1902, and where his widow died in 1907. John W. grew up in Watertown, Wis., and acquired his education and here worked with his father learning the trade of wood turning, and followed it ten years. During this time he became an expert bicycle rider and spent three years as a fancy trick rider, and racer, with the high wheel. Coming to Faribault, he turned his attention to the bicycle trade, and sold the first safety bicycle that was sold there. Mr. Snyder continued in this business with good success, till 1895, and then began the bakery business that has engaged his principal attention ever since, supplying goods for both the retail and wholesale trade, sending his products to Morristown and various southern points and having an extensive local trade with the hotels and restaurants of Faribault. Mr. Snyder is active in fraternal and benevolent organizations, being Past Chancellor of Knights of Pythias, and a member of Modern Woodmen of America, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Eagles. He was the prime mover in organizing the Faribault Guards and served five years as first lieutenant of the company. In November, 1878, Mr. Snyder married Fannie, a daughter of Albin and Mary Flye, natives of Boston, Mass. Mr. Snyder is a Republican in political sentiment and with Mrs. Snyder, is affiliated with the Episcopalian church.

**George H. Shipman** was born August 12, 1869, at Faribault, Minn., and has lived there all his life, and is one of the prosperous and wide-awake business men of the city. His parents, George and Margaret (Weben) Shipman, came from Germany, their native land, in 1866, and settled at Faribault, where they still live, the father being well known as a painter and decorator. They have besides our subject, a daughter, Flora Cecelia, who lives with her parents. George H. acquired his education in the German Lutheran, and public school, worked with his father as a painter and decorator, becoming a skillful and expert workman. He continued with his father till 1909 and then branched out on his own account, thoroughly prepared and fully equipped to furnish estimates, and take and carry out contracts for painting and all manner of work relating to decorative art. Mr. Shipman always devoted himself closely to his chosen work, but gives a reasonable amount of time to social and outside affairs.

He is a member of the Commercial club of Faribault, and belongs to the Mutual Life Association. He is a Republican in political faith and in his religious affiliations is connected with the German Lutheran church. On October 7, 1898, Mr. Shipman married Margaret Miller, whose parents, Jaques and Caroline Miller, came from Germany, their native land, about 18— and settled in Brooklyn, N. Y., moving, five years later to Rice county, Minnesota, where the father bought and settled his family on a quarter section of land in Morristown and engaged in general farming, and where he and his wife still live. Mr. and Mrs. Shipman have two children named, respectively, Serena Isabella and Helen Ardelia.

**Walter Scott**, proprietor of the Fariott Garage and Engine Factory is a native of Rice county, Minnesota, and was born at Morristown, June 19, 1866, to James G. and Lucia A. (Wood) Scott, natives of New Jersey and Illinois, respectively. The father was one of the early settlers of Rice county and did much towards its development in the early days. He carried on general farming and sheep raising in Richland township and later in Morristown. In 1871 he sold his interests here and purchased milling property at Robert Lake, and was a leading and influential man in his community. His death occurred in 1885, but his widow survived till 1907, when she passed away. Walter acquired his education in the public schools and when twenty years old, in 1885, entered the works of F. W. Winters and Company of Faribault, and learned the machinist's trade and remained there five years. The next five years he was employed as engineer for M. B. Sheffield, at Walcott, after which he went to Stillwater, and was there in the bicycle business till the year of 1900. In the fall of that year he returned to Faribault and for a year worked in the automobile factory of the Chicago Electric Vehicle Company, and since that time, in one way or another has been interested in, and connected with the automobile trade. His present factory was established January 1, 1909, and besides the manufacture of gas engines and motor boats, he does an extensive business in automobiles and other repairs and in supplies of every kind in this line, and is the representative of the Olds, the Buick and the Oakland machines for Rice, and a half of Goodhue counties. Mr. Scott is a member of the Automobile club and Boat club of Faribault, and also belongs to the Modern Brotherhood of America, and for three years, 1905-8, was state game officer. He is independent in his political sentiments and actions, and in religious belief, adheres to the faith of the Presbyterian church. On October 23, 1888, Mr. Scott married Edith M., daughter of J. W. and Ella R. Brierton, natives of Illinois and Pennsylvania, respectively. They were

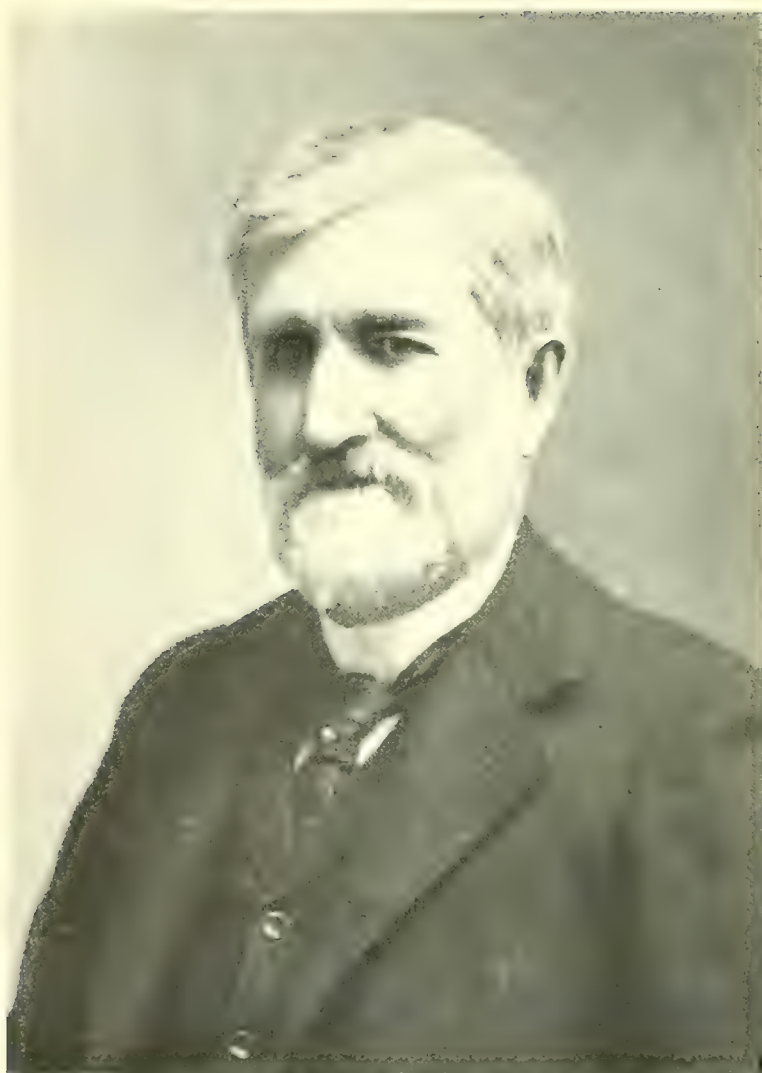


early settlers of Olmstead county, Minnesota, and in 1869 settled on a farm in Steele county.

**Charles N. Stewart**, ex-sheriff of Rice county, was born in Madison county, New York, June 18, 1826, and was brought to Wisconsin by his parents as a lad of fourteen. He then remained on the home farm working for his father until 1854 when he came to Rice county, arriving at the present site of Northfield, October 20, of that year. He made a claim in Northfield township on Prairie creek, built a cabin and returned that fall to Wisconsin. On account of his health, Mr. Stewart was unable to return inside of the required six months and consequently lost his claim right. Not daunted, he returned about the middle of July, 1855, and bought a claim of 160 acres from a Mr. Trolley in the township of Bridgewater. Here he lived for forty-seven years, winning his way in the esteem of his fellow citizens, and becoming one of the most honored, respected and trusted citizens of the county. In 1902 he moved to the city of Northfield where he now resides. Mr. Stewart was elected sheriff of Rice county in 1888 and served four consecutive terms. After returning from this office he took charge of the state farm which is conducted in connection with the state school for defectives, and remained about two years. He has now retired from the more strenuous duties of life and is enjoying a well-deserved rest. Mr. Stewart has been a life long Republican. He was married October 30, 1860, to Olive Josephine Hull, born in Munnsville, Madison county, New York, September 15, 1833. To Mr. and Mrs. Stewart were born four children, two of whom are living. Birney Sinclair was born September 1, 1862, and died July 6, 1864; Charles S. was born July 18, 1865, and died January 31, 1901; Theodore A. was born May 10, 1867, and now lives at Hibbing, Minn.; Clara M. was born March 22, 1869, and married Herbert Clement, of Fari-bault, Minn. The family faith is that of the Congregational church.

The parents of Charles N. Stewart were Alexander and Margaret (Sinclair) Stewart, both natives of Scotland, married in Johnstown, Montgomery county, New York. Alexander Stewart moved to Waukesha county, Wisconsin, in 1840 and there followed the occupation of farmer. He and his wife are both dead. They were the parents of eleven children as follows: Mrs. George Stewart, of Oneida, Madison county, New York; Mrs. Henry Gilbert, of Monmouth, Ill.; Robert A. Pewauke, of Waukesha county, Wisconsin; John, of Jackson, Mich.; William D., of Rice county, Minnesota; Mrs. A. B. Parsons, of Delaware, Wis.; Janett Stewart, of Delaware, Wis.; Joseph A., of Northfield, Minn.; Archibald S., of Nyack, New





M. W. SKINNER

York; Charles N., of Northfield, and James T., of Waukesha, Wis. The parents of Mrs. Charles N. Stewart were Samuel W. and Mary L. (Frost) Hull, both natives of New York, the former born April 12, 1803, and the mother September 20, 1808. They were married September 21, 1826. The father died May 30, 1881, and the mother September 2, 1884. They were the parents of six children: Adelaide A., who died in infancy; Mrs. William Minton, of Brockton, Chautauqua county, New York; Mrs. Charles N. Stewart, of Northfield; Mrs. James De Grey, of Clinton, East Feliciana Parish, La.; Helen Adel, who died in infancy and David Virney, of Chautauqua county, New York.

**Miron W. Skinner**, now deceased, was for many years prominently identified with the life of Northfield. He was born at Jericho Center, Vermont, June 2, 1834. His parents, though having little of this world's wealth, were of sturdy New England stock, and rich in the virtues of the Puritan character. His mother was a Chapin, a name well known and honorably associated with much of New England history. Losing his mother when but eight years of age, and compelled to begin earning his own livelihood at fifteen, he early developed the independence and self reliance that were such important elements of success to him in after life. His education was received in the public schools and in the academy of the neighboring town of Underhill. His business training began with three years of clerkship in Burlington and Underhill. In 1853 he went to Dubuque, Iowa, where he remained one year, and then to Galena, Ill., where he remained two years, as clerk in a wholesale house, and where business connections first called his attention to the possibilities of the Northwest. In 1856 he joined his two brothers in Jamestown, Wis., where they were engaged in the mercantile business. In the fall of the same year, with his brother, Martin P. Skinner, he went to Northfield, and established a similar business, the three brothers conducting the two stores in partnership until the death of the Wisconsin brother in 1864. Northfield was then but a rude promise of a town. There was not a plastered house within its limits, and every thing was in a corresponding state of crudeness. Of what it subsequently became, Mr. Skinner contributed his full share. By ability, industry, integrity and fair dealing, he not only achieved a substantial business success, but won the respect and esteem of his fellow citizens and contributed in many important ways to the best interests of the town. In 1866, his brother, Martin, died, and Mr. Skinner associated himself with other partners, from time to time—Mr. Jenkins, Mr. Lockwood and C. A. Drew, the partnership with the latter continuing for



eighteen years. Meantime Mr. Skinner was frequently entrusted by eastern people with money for investment, and he conducted such negotiations with so much sagacity, and so much to the satisfaction of both borrowers and lenders, that he gradually developed a loan business of such magnitude that he was obliged to devote his entire time to it, withdrawing from his mercantile pursuits for that purpose. It is a fine tribute to both his business and his moral qualities that in the more than forty years that this business continued, not a dollar thus invested for other people was ever lost, and no mortgaged property came back upon the hands of the investors. The confidence which his neighbors had in him was attested in many ways. He was for several years officially connected with the Citizens' Bank, of Northfield, and was for twenty-one years, a director and for fourteen years the vice president of the First National Bank. The welfare of Northfield and its people was ever dear to him, and he was foremost in every enterprise which he believed to be for the general good. In 1892 he was elected as a member of the city council, and was twice re-elected, making his office six years, after which, in March, 1898, he was elected mayor, which office he held four years. It was during this official period of his life, and largely through his efforts and influence, that some of the most important and progressive improvements were introduced, including the system of water-works, to which he gave so much time and attention. September 5, 1859, Mr. Skinner was married, in Anoka, Minn., to Emily Willey, daughter of the Rev. Austin Willey, then pastor of the Congregational church in that place. The union was a singularly happy and fortunate one, securing him a companion and helper whose sympathy, capacity and co-operation were of invaluable service to him in every walk of life. Their home was a charming social center, where their friends and neighbors delighted to gather, and overflowed with the most generous hospitality to the large circles of guests, whether acquaintances or strangers. Mr. Skinner's religious character was as marked and earnest as his business enterprise. He was from childhood seriously inclined, and a regular attendant at church and Sunday school. In March, 1858, he joined the Congregational church at Northfield, and was one of the most exemplary and active members during the remainder of his life. He engaged actively in Sunday school work, and was a regular attendant at the devotional meetings of the church. He served it as clerk, treasurer, deacon and trustee, and was a generous giver to very good cause. His piety was of a kind that begins at home, where family worship was regularly maintained, and the many interests that were dear to him were daily remembered. In no organi-

zation was he more interested than in the Old Settlers Association, and its unusual success has been largely due to his energy and ingenuity. He was a member of the first board of trustees of Carleton college and served in that capacity until his death. His interest in the college was intense, and his gifts of time and money extending over a period of more than forty years, were many and generous. Although doing such a prodigious amount of work, Mr. Skinner, was, during a large part of his adult life, a sufferer from impaired health. Before he was thirty years old, he developed pulmonary difficulties that threatened his life, but from which, rest, temporary change of climate and skillful nursing brought him gradually back to health, though with some remnants of the old troubles from which he was never entirely free. During the last three or four years of his life he was a sufferer from other serious disorders, which, in spite of all that medical and surgical skill and devoted care could do, culminated in his death, on July 19, 1909. His death was felt as a personal and public loss. Places of business were closed during the funeral hour, and his neighbors and associates went enmasse to the service. Mr. Skinner left a wife and one daughter. An infant son died in 1863.

**Adam Smith**, a retired farmer, now living in Northfield, Minn., is a native of Germany and was born May 10, 1839. His parents, Nicholas and Mary (Wolf) Smith immigrated from Germany, their native land, in May, 1846, and settled on a farm near Buffalo, N. Y., where they reared their family and spent their lives. Here our subject spent his boyhood on his father's farm, and acquired his education attending school, held in a log cabin. He left home in 1857 and coming to Minnesota, reached Northfield October 7th, and during the following six months lived on what was known as the Captain Ives farm near the then Village after which, until 1862, he was employed as a farm hand. After the opening of the Civil War, he enlisted in Company A, Seventh Regiment of Minnesota Volunteers, infantry, and after serving one year in the Indian Expedition, was transferred to St. Louis, Mo., where he was on parol duty for a time, and then with his regiment, went to Paducah, Ky. He continued in the service till the close of the war in 1865, participating in the numerous battles of the various campaigns and was honorably discharged, being mustered out at Fort Snelling. Returning home, Mr. Smith resumed farming, settling in Sciota township where he continued three years, after which he farmed two years in Waterford township, and then for a period of ten years conducted a teaming business, carrying between Cascade and Northfield. Through these years of industry, economy, and thrift, Mr. Smith accumulated sufficient capital to buy a farm of one

hundred and sixty acres in Stanton township, Goodhue county where he settled in 1879 and which he conducted with eminent success for a period of twenty years, carrying on general farming and dairying. Mr. Smith still owns this farm, but since 1899 has lived in Northfield where he enjoys the well-earned fruits of his labors in his fine home on Union avenue. On September 24, 1863, Mr. Smith married Julia H., daughter of the late Josiah Austin, a pioneer farmer of Goodhue county, a native of Vermont, and who recently died in Washington. Of three children born to Mr. and Mrs. Smith, the eldest, Ida is married to Arthur Drake, a carpenter, of Northfield, Lillian is married to Simon La Pointe, a farmer, in the outskirts of Northfield, and Sidney S., who married Lizzie Dack, is engaged in farming near Northfield. Mr. Smith is a member of the G. A. R., Heywood Post, Grand Army of the Republic, at Northfield, and he was the last man to whom Mr. Heywood handed money over the bank counter before the bank robbery.

**Henry A. Swartwood**, retired farmer of Faribault, and former member of the legislature, was born in Wyoming county, Pennsylvania, July 20, 1836. After receiving the usual education of the boys of his period, he followed farming until 1857 on the home farm in Pennsylvania. After coming to Cannon City township with his parents, he still farmed with his father until 1859 when he purchased 100 acres of his own. To this he added until he owned 220 acres, which he improved and cultivated, successfully conducting general farming. During this period he rose to distinction among his neighbors. For many years he served on the school board and for two terms was supervisor of his township. In 1887-88 he was a member of the state legislature and reflected credit upon himself and the district he represented. During the Indian outbreak, he received a commission as second lieutenant in one of the companies raised for frontier service, but he did not leave home. In 1899, Mr. Swartwood rented his farm and purchased a comfortable residence at 625 Seventh street, Faribault, where he is now enjoying the fruits of a well-spent life. In politics he is an independent Republican. Mr. Swartwood was married in March, 1859, to Harriet Shepard, who died in April, 1896. To this union were born six children: Fred A., a physician in Waseca; Frank I., an insurance agent in Minneapolis; Wilbur E., secretary of the Minneapolis Paper Company, in Minneapolis; Clifford H., in the mining business at Cripple Creek, Col.; Jennie M., married to Edward A Pike and living on the old homestead; and Carlton H., of Minneapolis. Mr. Swartwood was married April 20, 1899, to Alice E. Covert, daughter of Joseph Covert, of Wheeling township, born March 2, 1859. Mr. Covert died April 20, 1893, and Mrs. Covert died

April 28, 1898. The family faith of the Swartwoods is that of the Episcopal church.

Henry and Catherine (Bruges) Swartwood parents of Henry A. Swartwood were natives of Pennsylvania, their oldest son, Charles came in 1855 and the father in 1856, and returned the same year to his old home and moved his family in 1857, having purchased 320 acres and followed farming until their retirement in 1884. Mrs. Swartwood died February 27, 1886, and Mr. Swartwood October 31, 1895.

**Andrew J. Stauffer**, son of one of the pioneer Minnesota families, was born in territorial days, at Afton, Washington county, Minnesota, September 4, 1856, and spent his boyhood in that place. In 1869 he came with his parents to Faribault and continued his schooling in the public schools of this city. After completing his studies, he still remained at home, and in 1881 took chage of the home farm, coming into possession of the old homestead at the time of his father's death. From 1889 to 1895 he engaged in a general mercantile establishment in Idaho, but with the exception of those years, has devoted his life to farming. In 1903, the farm house, which had stood many years, was burned, and the family moved to 516 West Fifth street. Mr. Stauffer, however, continued to carry on general farming on the home place with great success. The farm, which is a fertile one, is located within the city limits and is in a high state of cultivation. Mr. Stauffer is a loyal Prohibitionist, and belongs to the Modern Samaritans and the Equitable Fraternal Union. He has never sought public office. April 30, 1881, Mr. Stauffer was married at Cannon City to Lina J. Covert, born September 1, 1860, daughter of Hon. Joseph Covert. To this union have been born three children: Leslie J. was born June 11, 1884, and was married September 28, 1907, to Ruby P. Rawson; Roy J. was born April 14, 1888, and died March 26, 1892; Hazel T. was born April 30, 1899, and lives at home. The family faith is that of the Congregational church. John and Hannah (Shull) Stauffer, territorial pioneers, parents of Andrew J. Stauffer, were born in Pennsylvania, and there spent their early life, migrating to St. Anthony Falls in 1854. Subsequently they lived in Afton, Minn., where their son was born, and in 1869 came to Faribault and purchased the Hulett farm, where they conducted general farming until 1881, when they retired. The mother died November 28, 1885, and in 1887 the father returned to Pennsylvania, where he died at York, in April, 1894. To John Stauffer belongs the credit of originating the raising of clover in both Washington and Rice counties.

**Sylvester Statelar**, one of the sturdy old pioneers of Minnesota, was born in Ohio, March 14, 1817, in which state he re-



ceived his education. After his school days, he served an apprenticeship in a blacksmith shop, following this line of work for several years in his native state and continuing it after his removal to Stillwater, Minn., in 1842. He remained in Stillwater till 1846, when he removed to Lake Superior, staying there one year. In 1847, he was appointed government blacksmith for the Chippewa Indians, being stationed at Crow Wing, Minn., holding this position until 1862, and experiencing the usual hardships and perils incident to the early pioneer days. He then came to Rice county and located in Warsaw township, where he purchased a quarter section of land and entered into agriculture with his characteristic energy and vim, remodeled the house, erected new outbuildings and made numerous other improvements. Mr. Statelar's farm is known as one of the best in the township. Besides carrying on general farming, he has made a specialty of gardening, also of grape culture, in which he has met with very marked success. In connection with his farm, he has always conducted a blacksmith shop for the purpose of doing his own work in that line, and has also helped out his neighbors on numerous occasions. He has occupied much of his time in his advanced age in fine metal work, especially in the making of carving sets, having made five sets after his eighty-fifth year. As to politics, Mr. Statelar is a follower of the Democratic party, and has been honored with various local offices, having served his town for many years on the school board as well as in other town offices. In religion, he is a believer in the teachings of the Episcopal church. He is identified with the 1849 Territorial Association, organized in '57. Mr. Statelar is now in his ninety-fourth year, but is still hale and hearty and has a very vivid recollection of the early days with their privations and trials. He is universally loved and esteemed by all with whom he comes in contact. December 21, 1863, at Little Falls, Minn., he was married to Sarah J. Elwell, who died February 3, 1907, leaving two daughters and one son. Chlora, the eldest, married Charles Murray, now of Merriam Park. James S., the second in order of birth, has always been engaged in general farming with his father on the old homestead, looking after the interests of the farm and caring for his father in his old age. He also owned and conducted another large farm in connection with the old homestead for some years. As well as other business enterprises, chief of which is a large interest in and the presidency of the Faribault Canning Company. Sarah A., like her brother has always remained at home, caring for her father and attending to the household duties that her mother so faithfully performed before her passing to the Great Beyond.

There were three older children by a former marriage, Nannie,

who resides in St. Paul; Truman, who died in 1906, and Sophia, married to Henry Sidebottom, who died in 1901. There is one grandson, Radclyffe Sidebottom, born in England, in 1895.

**John Sery** was born in Bohemia, June 24, 1866, son of Albert and Annie (Cecka) Sery, natives of Bohemia. The father acted as foreman under Prince Swartzenburg, and also as road overseer in his county for forty years, he died in 1849. John Sery was educated in Bohemia, and came to this country with his mother and sister in 1880, they first located at New Prague where he and his sister worked in a hardware store for one year. He then went to work on a farm for two years in that vicinity, and then worked one season on a farm in Dakota county in order to learn the English language. He then went to Dakota where he worked out on a farm for four years. Returning to Minnesota he went to St. Paul and entered the butcher business which he followed for one year. He then returned to Rice county and worked at odd jobs for one year, then moved to Tacoma, Wash., where he entered the wood business and continued in that for about three years, when he again returned to North Dakota. In 1894, he removed to Minneapolis and entered the butcher business but he followed it for only a few months, when he returned to Rice county and farmed for one year, and then moved to Pine county, where he farmed until 1902, going from there to McHenry county, N. Dakota where he took up a homestead. In 1905 he sold out and returned to Rice county where he bought eighty acres in Wheatland township, section 23, and now does a general farming. In 1887 he was married to Johanna Cihlar, a daughter of Mithias and Elonor Cihlar who were natives of Bohemia. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Sery: John, now in the hardware business in Dakota; Annie and Nora, twins, living in Minneapolis, and George lives at home. His wife died in 1902. He married as his second wife in 1905, Mary Kotraba, widow of Chas. Kotraba. He has one child by his second wife, Emma, who lives at home. In his religious belief Mr. Sery is a Roman Catholic, and his political affiliations are with the Republican party. He has served as supervisor and town chairman of Wheatland township, and also on the school board. He is now serving as chairman of the village board of Wheatland. He is also president of the Wheatland Creamery Company.

**O. H. Stenbakken**, a retired farmer of Wheeling township, is a worthy example of those men of sturdy race, who left the shores of Europe for the new world to achieve for themselves a name and fortune. He was born in Norway, September 17, 1848, son of H. O. and Carrie (Erickson) Stenbakken, who emigrated to America and located in Rock county, Wisconsin.

in 1854. The father was engaged there as a laborer until 1856 at which time he moved to Minnesota and located in section 12, Wheeling township, where he bought 160 acres of land, which he improved and engaged in general farming until 1875. At this time he retired and lived with his son until the time of his decease in 1899. The mother died in 1862. Our subject attended school only six months, acquiring his education by diligent study during spare hours at home. He started life on the old homestead on which he continued to do general farming until 1907 when he retired from active life. He still makes his home on the old homestead with his son. Mr. Stenbakken was married December 13, 1875, to Bergit H., daughter of H. K. and Sigre (Rustan) Rauk, natives of Norway, who emigrated to America in 1859, and located in section 7, town of Holden, Goodhue county, where the father farmed until 1892 at which time he retired and moved to Blooming Prairie, Steele county, where he died. Mrs. Rauk lives in Minneapolis with her daughter, Mrs. O. H. Veblen. Mrs. Stenbakken died in 1895.

Mr. and Mrs. Stenbakken have had five children: Carrie M., deceased; Hanna Sophia, married to J. O. Hellerud, who lives in the town of Wheeling; Gine K., married to Joseph Hellerud, and lives in Wheeling; Hans O. has charge of the farm; Serana B., now Mrs. A. B. Larson, member of the hardware firm of Held & Larson, at Nerstrand. Mr. Stenbakken is a Republican, and in religious faith he belongs to the Norwegian Lutheran Church. He has filled a number of local offices in the township, such as supervisor, justice of the peace, constable, township treasurer and clerk for the school board twenty years. He is also an active worker for the co-operative institutions in the community, being president and director of the Wheeling Mutual Fire Insurance Company; vice-president and director of the Farmers' State Bank at Nerstrand; stockholder in the Farmers' Co-operative Creamery, and a director in the Northfield Telephone Company, and assessor of the village of Nerstrand for twelve years.

**Thomas Skluzacek** was born in Wheatland, March 31, 1887, a son of Joseph and Katherine (Sticha) Skluzacek, natives of Bohemia. The father was by occupation a farmer, and came to this country in 1855, locating at St. Louis, remained there about one year, and then came to Minnesota, settling at Jordan, where he resided for six months. He then moved to New Prague, where he was in the hotel business for about eight years; from there he moved to Wheatland township, where he bought a farm in section 19, which he carried on until 1890. He deeded the property over to his oldest son, Joseph F., and moved two miles further south, where he farmed until 1907. He moved to Lonsdale, where he now lives. Mr. Thomas Skluzacek was educated in

the district schools of Wheatland, and at Montgomery. He spent seven months at a business college in Mankato. After leaving school he took up banking. He started as bookkeeper in the State Bank of Lonsdale, and is now cashier. He is one of a family of fourteen children. In his political views he is a Republican, and is a member of the Roman Catholic Church. He is now the village recorder and is a stockholder in the Lonsdale Bank.

**P. H. Shields** is one of the substantial farmers of Wells township, Rice county, Minn., who has attained his honorable place in his community by force of character, energy and hard work. A native of Waukesha county, Wisconsin, he was born in 1846 to Charles and Catherine (Muldown) Shields, who came from Ireland, their native country, in 1839 and settled in Providence, R. I., where the father followed his trade as a shoemaker. In 1844 he removed with his family to Waukesha county, Wisconsin, where he followed his trade and also conducted a store for a time and pre-empted a tract of 120 acres of land. The mother died there in 1882 and in 1883 the father moved to Minnesota and lived with his son the remainder of his life.

Our subject spent his boyhood at home and attended the public schools, and in 1868 bought eighty acres of land in Wisconsin, and engaged in farming; selling out his interests in 1883, he came to Rice county, Minnesota, where he bought eighty acres of land, which he has improved and developed, and where he has made a beautiful home and carries on diversified and general farming with eminent success. Mr. Shields is an energetic man of affairs, prosperous and thrifty, and has served the community in numerous local offices for many years, such as assessor, chairman of the town board, clerk of the school district, etc. He has held high positions in the Ancient Order of Hibernians, and been prominent in temperance work, is a Democrat in politics and, with his family is connected with the Catholic Church. He is also financially interested in the Faribault elevator and other local enterprises. On January 25, 1875, Mr. Shields married Mrs. Bridget Aspel, whose parents, Michael and Anastasia Connors, were natives of Ireland, and who came from their native land in 1850 and settled first in New York state, whence they moved to Wisconsin in 1854, and settled on a farm where they passed the rest of their lives, the mother dying in 1896 and the father in 1904. Of nine children born to Mr. and Mrs. Shields, the eldest, Katherine, is married to Mr. M. Greenwood, and lives in Otter county, Minnesota; Anastasia married John J. Sullivan and lives in Erin township, Rice county; Bridget, who is the wife of Mr. John Welch, lives at Faribault; Elizabeth lives at home with her parents; Anna E. is a teacher in



Rice county; Charles P. lives at home; Nora is the wife of Mr. J. P. Sullivan, of Erin township, Rice county; Martin M. lives at home, and Mary attended a business college and is a teacher by profession.

**Edwin Schwake** resides on a farm in Wheeling township, Rice county, where he was born February 26, 1885, to Fred and Frederika (Mahl) Schwake, natives of Germany, who emigrated to America in about 1858 and located in Illinois, where the father farmed until the Civil War broke out. The father enlisted in the army and served all through the war. After the close of the war he came to Minnesota and located in Richland township, Rice county, where he bought a farm, which he improved and on which he did general farming until 1878. He sold this farm and bought 200 acres in section 16, Richland township, remaining there until 1879. He then returned to Wheeling township, where he bought 160 acres in section 27, on which he was engaged in general farming up to the time of his decease in 1905. The mother died in 1901. Nine children blessed the home of this family: John lives on a farm in Richland township; Martha, now Mrs. Ernest Schuette, lives on a farm in Steele county; Emma keeps house for the two brothers on the old homestead; Albert, a farmer, is married, and lives in Dodge county; Margaret married W. H. Lindenburg, clothier at Faribault; Anna married H. A. Buchring and lives in Ellington, Minn.; Edwin, the subject of this sketch, and Arthur are both engaged in farming on the old home place; Alma makes her home on the farm and at Faribault. Our subject was educated in the district schools of Wheeling, which was supplemented by a course at the Dunker's Business College at Faribault. Leaving school, he returned to his father's farm, where he is still engaged in farming. In politics his sentiments are with the Republican party. He is a member of the German Evangelical Church.

**J. W. Stoos**, a progressive farmer of Richland township, was born there March 18, 1876, to N. H. and Sarah J. (Thompson) Stoos, natives of Germany and New York, respectively. The father came to America in 1850, with his parents. He came to Rice county as a young man and located in Richland township, sections 19 and 20, where he erected farm buildings, made improvements and did general farming until 1904, at which time he rented the farm to his son, J. W., and moved to Owatonna, where he lives at the present time. The subject of this sketch acquired his education in the district schools of Richland, which was supplemented by five years' schooling at Pillsbury Academy at Owatonna. Leaving school, he came back to the old homestead, where he still remains, carrying on general and diversified

farming. Mr. Stoos was married in 1904 to Floy, daughter of H. B. Chambers, of Owatonna. The fruits of this union are two children, Everett W. and Ruth H., who are both living with their parents. In politics he is affiliated with the Prohibition party. In religious faith he with his family belongs to the Baptist Church. He has served as clerk of the school board in district No. 21 for the past nine years.

**Carl Schmidt**, an esteemed farmer of Wheeling township, has reason to be proud of the record he has made as a progressive citizen. He was born in Germany, November 19, 1847. He is the son of Gotfred and Hanna Schmidt. The father was a farmer, which occupation he followed until the time of his decease in 1884. The mother died in 1889. Carl was educated in the schools of Germany. Leaving school, he worked on a farm until 1869, when he emigrated to America and located in Michigan, where he worked in the copper mines, which occupation he followed for a year, and then came to Minnesota and located in Rice county, township of Wheeling, where he worked on a farm. In 1877 he bought eighty acres of farm land in section 26 and ten acres of timber land; remaining there until 1883. He increased his farm by an additional purchase of eighty acres in section 26, on which he made extensive improvements and carried on general farming until 1908, when he retired from active life, renting his farm to his son Carl. Mr. Schmidt was married June 15, 1877, to Caroline, daughter of Louis and Wilhelmena (Lange) Hansing, natives of Germany, who emigrated to America in 1846, locating in Illinois, where the father worked on a farm until 1856. They then moved to Minnesota, and located in Rice county, township of Wheeling, where the father was engaged in farming until the time of his decease, in 1876. Mrs. Hansing died in 1898. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Schmidt was blessed with three children: Carl, who is married and lives on the old homestead; Wilhelmena died at the age of five; Herman died when six years old. Mr. Schmidt has served on the school board for five years as director. He is a stockholder in the Nerstrand Creamery. In politics he is affiliated with the Republican party. In religious faith he belongs to the German Evangelical Church.

**A. B. Story**, a farmer of Richland township, first saw light in Essex, Mass., November 27, 1852. He is a son of Andrew and Lucy Story, natives of Massachusetts. The father, a ship-builder, worked at his trade until 1862, when he moved West with his family and located in sections 2 and 3, Richland township, Rice county, where he did general farming up to the time of his decease, which occurred in the month of December, 1900. The mother is also dead. Our subject was educated in the dis-

strict schools of Richland township, also in the public school at Kenyon. Leaving school, he worked on his father's farm until 1876, at which time he bought 160 acres of land in Dodge county, on which he carried on general farming, but continued to reside with his parents. He later sold this farm and bought another 160 acres, which he still owns. He makes his home on the old homestead, and has about 460 acres of land in all. Mr. Story was married March 4, 1890, to Annie, daughter of George and Celia (Howard) Wheeler, natives of King county, Illinois. Mr. Wheeler's occupation was that of a farmer. He came to Minnesota in 1857 and located in Richland township, where he bought 160 acres of land, on which he farmed until 1865. He then sold this farm and bought eighty acres or railroad land, on which he farmed until 1875, at which time he again sold and bought another farm in the western part of Richland township, remaining there until 1897, when he again sold and bought what is known as the Lockwood farm, where he remained until 1907. He then gave up active work and moved to Kenyon, where he expired April 18, 1909. Mrs. Wheeler now makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Christ Dahl, who lives in Richland township. Mr. and Mrs. Story have three children, Andrew H., Albin Loyd and Annie Laurie, who are all living at home. Mr. Story believes in the principles of the Republican party. In religious faith he is affiliated with the Universalist Church. He has shown an active interest in public affairs, and has aided in a number of progressive enterprises in his community. He served as director on the school board for six years; also as director and treasurer of the Richland Creamery from 1906 to 1908. He is a stockholder and director in the Farmers' Elevator in Kenyon. He is also a director and one of the members of the board of examining committee of the Farmers' State Bank at Kenyon. He also served six years on the board of supervisors.

**Joseph F. Skluzacek** was born in Wheatland township, March 18, 1868. He is a son of Joseph and Katherine Skluzacek. He attended the district school at Wheatland, spent four years in the parochial school at New Prague, about seven months at La Sueur, and five months at the parochial school at Fari-bault. After leaving school he farmed with his father, and in 1891 his father deeded to him 120 acres. He has added to this and now has 270 acres on which he has done general farming up to the present time. He also raises pure-bred Percheron horses and mixed Shorthorn cattle. He was married in 1891 to Elizabeth Trnka, and eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Skluzacek: Ludmilla, Joseph, George, John, Jaroslav, Edward, Theodore and Frank. In politics Mr. Skluzacek is a Democrat.

and in his religious belief he is a Catholic. He is a member of the Society of Catholic Workmen, Z. C. K. J.; clerk of the school board, and president of the Rice County Farmers' Elevator Company at Lonsdale, and also secretary of the Wheatland Horse Company.

**Herbert W. Tuttle**, retired business man of Faribault, was born in the city where he now resides, July 9, 1869, son of Lyman and Ruth (Boynton) Tuttle, New Englanders by birth and ancestry. Herbert W. received his education in the public schools and at Shattuck school, graduating from the latter institution in 1890. He then entered the employ of the Faribault Boot and Shoe Factory as bookkeeper. In 1896 he accepted a similar position with the Security Bank, later being promoted to assistant cashier. In 1904 he resigned his position and took charge of his father's business until 1907, when he sold out and retired. A Republican in politics, he keeps well abreast of all the public questions of the day, but has never been an aspirant for public office. He has shown his interest in Faribault by joining the Commercial Club, and he also belongs to the Royal Arcanum and other fraternities. Mr. Tuttle was married July 27, 1898, at Faribault, Minn., to Jane E. Weston, born in Burnett, Wis., October 30, 1872, daughter of Charles Weston, who died May 17, 1908. Mrs. Weston is still living.

**Lyman Tuttle**, a pioneer, was born in New Haven, Conn., August 23, 1836, being one of the well-known Tuttle family of that place. When seventeen years of age, he entered the employ of a mercantile house, and remained until 1856, when he came to Faribault, and located, identifying himself with the meat business. From that date to 1864 he had different partners in the business, the market being known as the Excelsior Market. In 1864 he became sole proprietor and so remained up to the time of his death. He was a strong Republican, taking a great interest in public affairs. He served as alderman from the Third ward and was a high degree Mason, being a member of the Knights Templar. He was unusually public-spirited, always helping in a financial way any enterprise that might be for the benefit of his town or a help of its citizens, and always giving generously to charity. He was married October 14, 1868, to Ruth Boynton, who died January 19, 1894, leaving one son, Herbert W. Mr. Tuttle died September 14, 1906.

**August Timm** is a leading and influential citizen of Rice county, Minnesota. He was born in Germany in 1854, and there acquired his schooling. He came to the United States in 1873 and settled on a small farm in Dodge county, Wisconsin, and lived there ten years, in the meantime, in 1881, having married, his wife's maiden name being Anna Wolf. In 1884 Mr.



and Mrs. Timm moved to Grant county, South Dakota, but nineteen years later returned and lived in Warsaw township, Rice county, Minn., two years, and in 1905 bought from Mr. W. C. Knauss two farms of eighty acres each, and one farm of eighty acres from A. G. St. Dennis, in Morristown township, where he has since made his home. These farms, comprising 240 acres, are all under cultivation, and finely improved with good buildings and modern equipments. Since settling here Mr. Timm has remodeled the barn and erected a silo, a commodious wagon shed, and granary, and among other modern appliances has put in a fine feed mill, operated by engine power, and constructed a system of waterworks which by windmill power supplies water to his elegant and substantial farmhouse. Mr. Timm has three sons, George R., Ervin L. and William F., the two first named being associated with him under the name of August Timm & Sons, as proprietors of the Pleasant View and Cedar Lawn Dairy Farms, which are stocked with registered and high grade Holstein-Friesian cattle and Poland-China swine. Mr. Timm is also president of the Morristown Telephone Company. Since 1872 he has been affiliated with the German Baptist Church, and is an active church and Sunday-school worker, having been Sunday-school superintendent for more than twenty-five years. In 1886 he began preaching the gospel, in addition to his other activities, and preached his first pulpit sermon at Big Stone City, S. D. He also supplied the pulpit of the Baptist Church at Morristown for two months during the illness of the pastor, Rev. Reynolds. Mr. George R. Timm, the eldest son, married Lydia Witte, and they have one child, named Evelyn, who is the only grandchild of our subject. Mr. Timm is a man of sturdy character and strong convictions, and is recognized as a leader in the community and in all that makes for the elevation and betterment of his fellows.

**Dr. Arthur Taylor**, osteopathic practitioner of Northfield, has won for himself a worthy position in the community. Among other achievements, he organized the "Science Circle" in the state of Minnesota, and is the present state leader. He was born in Red Wing, Minn., September 10, 1879, a son of Benjamin and Margaret (Featherstone) Taylor, the former a native of Canada and the latter of Pennsylvania. The father died June 12, 1903, and the mother still makes her home in Red Wing. Arthur was the youngest of three, the others being Lily, of Kirksville, Mo., and Clarence T., of Red Wing. The subject of this sketch received his education in the public schools of Red Wing, and also took a normal course in that city. He then went to the Still College of Osteopathy, in Des Moines, Iowa, where he graduated in June, 1903. He at once

commenced the practice of his profession in Winona, Minn., remaining three months, after which he came to Northfield, where he has since remained, building up a large practice, being now one of the esteemed citizens and professional men of the city. Fraternally, he is a member of Social Lodge, No. 48, A. F. and A. M.; Northfield Lodge, No. 50, I. O. O. F., and Northfield Camp, No. 701, M. W. of A. Dr. Taylor has held the office of vice-president of the Minnesota State Osteopathic Association for four years, and has also allied himself with the National Association. He was married May 4, 1904, to Lavina M. Hawkins, born in Red Wing, April 25, 1880, a daughter of O. Hawkins, of Red Wing. The Taylor home has been blessed with two children: James A., born September 24, 1905, and Lloyd W., born September 2, 1909.

**James W. Trenda**, an energetic and live citizen of Faribault, Minn., is a native of Veseli, Wheatland township, Rice county, Minn. He received a public-school education at Veseli, then entered St. John's University, where he took a commercial course, graduating in 1900. He was a student at the Mankato high school for one year, and directly after leaving that institution taught a term of school at Veseli. A year in the State Normal School at Mankato completed his education, after which he taught two terms in Wheatland township. Mr. Trenda has always been a loyal adherent of the Republican party and politics now claimed his attention. September, 1905, he was appointed deputy county auditor, and held that office until January, 1909, when he was elected county auditor, which position he still holds (1910). Mr. Trenda was married to Miss Margaret B. Healey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Healey, of Faribault, August 25, 1908. They have one child, who was born September 15, 1909. Mr. and Mrs. Trenda are members of the Catholic Church. Mathias and Josephine (Kasperek) Trenda, parents of James W. Trenda, are natives of Bohemia. They emigrated to America in 1867, first locating at Shakopee, Scott county, Minn., thence removing to Webster township, where they purchased 160 acres of land, and followed farming for a short time. In 1878 they moved to Veseli, where they now live, and carried on a general mercantile trade till their retirement in 1903. Mr. E. J. Healey, father of Mrs. J. W. Trenda, died December, 1905. Mrs. Healey still survives and lives at Faribault.

**George C. Thorpe**, a citizen of Northfield, was born in Vermont, December 23, 1834, to George and Christianna (Ball) Thorpe, both natives of that state, where they passed their lives. After attaining his majority the subject of this sketch settled upon a tract of land near the present village of Dennison, in Northfield township. He carried on farming there until 1877,

when he moved to Hancock, Minn., where he carried on an extensive business in real estate, insurance and loans until 1905; in that year he retired from active business and moved to Northfield. He still owns several farms in Stevens county, which he leases.

A man of broad sympathies, Mr. Thorpe has always had a wide influence in public affairs. In the early days of Rice county he served on the first elected board of supervisors, and was assessor for the township of Northfield, which then included the village of Northfield. In Stevens county he served as chairman of the county board, as president of the village of Hancock, as county commissioner, treasurer of board of education, and for eight years as a member of the state board of equalization. When he left that position his many friends and associates presented him with a beautiful loving cup as a token of their high regard. Mr. Thorpe is an active Mason and is next to the earliest surviving initiate of the Northfield Lodge. In politics he has always loyally espoused the Republican cause. He is fond of travel and spends much time visiting relatives and friends from the Atlantic to the Pacific coasts, passing his winters for the most part in California.

In 1861 Mr. Thorpe was married to Adelaide Corinne Carpenter, daughter of McKenzie and Juliaet (Walker) Carpenter, all natives of Vermont. Of the surviving children of this marriage, Arthur, a graduate of the medical department of the University of Minnesota, is a leading physician and surgeon in Los Angeles, Cal.; George C., Jr., an alumnus of the college and law department of the New York University, is a major of marines, having entered the Naval Academy in 1894; and Clarence McK., the youngest, is a Western representative of an Eastern drug house. The mother of these children died in 1897. Mr. Thorpe contracted a second marriage with Mrs. Margaret Johnson, the mother of two children by a former marriage.

**George W. Tower**, the first mayor of Faribault, and one of its most honored citizens, was born in Seneca county, New York, June 7, 1822. He received his early education in the district schools of his native locality, completing with a course in the Burleigh Academy of Beloit, Wis., after his removal West in his youthful days. Leaving school, he went to the state of Iowa and engaged in farming a tract of wild land, learning by actual experience what it meant to be a pioneer. A year later, in 1854, he came to Faribault, then but a rude village, far different from the present metropolis, and started a general mercantile establishment, which he managed with much success for over sixteen years, becoming widely known as a business man of the strictest integrity. During the rush to California after

the discovery of gold in 1849, he caught the fever, joining the pilgrimage and spending four years on the coast as a gold miner. He is now conducting a land business at Faribault. In politics he is a staunch supporter of the Republican party, and has served the community in many positions of trust, being his city's first mayor, and having held the office of county treasurer six years and that of city treasurer four years. Mr. Tower was also president of the board of directors of the State Deaf and Dumb School five years. In 1855 he was married to Jane E. Morse, of Iowa, who died in 1904, leaving two children: Mary, wife of E. A. Taylor, of Faribault; and Carrie Belle, connected with the St. Paul "Pioneer Press." The family attend worship at the Congregational Church.

**Nicholas Travis**, one of the oldest pioneer residents of Faribault, Minn., was born in Saratoga county, New York, April 24, 1824. Here he passed his early boyhood and acquired the beginnings of his education in the district schools, coming West with his parents, at the age of nine years, to Ohio, where he finished his schooling. He then worked at the shoemaking trade with his father till he reached his eighteenth year, when he started a shop of his own, continuing to follow this line of business for three years in Ohio, and for two years after his removal to Faribault, Minn. Farming then claimed his attention, and so he pre-empted a quarter section of wild land which he cleared and cultivated with the rude tools of those early pioneer days, gradually improving his land until he had a model farm, which he is still engaged in working. The farm is very desirably located, being partly inside the city limits. Mr. Travis has never sought public office, other interests demanding all his time and attention. He is a follower of the teachings of the Spiritualists. October 28, 1848, he was united in marriage with Mary E. Hoover, at Washington, Ohio. She is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Hoover, who were engaged in farming in Ohio till 1855, when they migrated West, settling in Cannon City township, Rice county, Minn., where they followed farming for the remainder of their lives. Samuel and Elizabeth (Orr) Travis, parents of our subject, were natives of New York, where the father followed shoemaking till his migration West in 1855, first locating in Ohio, where he remained, engaged at his trade, for twenty-two years, thence going to Cannon City township, Rice county, and from there back to Bristol township, Trumbull county Ohio, where he followed his trade till his death, at the age of ninety-three years and nine months. The mother died ten days after her eighty-eighth birthday.

**H. W. Taylor**, proprietor of an omnibus line at Faribault, Minn., is a native of Massachusetts, and was born June 20, 1833.



the son of Ansel and Betsey (Sears) Taylor, natives of Massachusetts. The father was a farmer all his life and passed away at the advanced age of eighty-four years, his death being followed by that of the mother four years later, at the same age. Our subject acquired his schooling in his native state and in 1856 went to Michigan, whence he moved the same year to Steele county, Minnesota, pre-empting a quarter section of land in Merton township, which he subdued and improved with good buildings, and where he carried on farming ten years. He also bought eighty acres, which he cleaned and improved. He was two years in the milk business, and in 1872 he started the bus line, to which he afterwards gave his attention, and in the management of which he achieved marked success, continuing it till October 1, 1909, when he retired from active work. Mr. Taylor has never given any special attention to political matters more than to perform his duties as a good citizen, but has served as assessor of the town of Merton. He is a Republican in political opinion, and in religious belief affiliates with the Congregational Church. On January 1, 1860, Mr. Taylor married Leonora, daughter of Moses and Julia Kendall, who came from Massachusetts, their native state, in the spring of 1856 and settled on a farm in the town of Merton, Steel county, Minn., where they both passed away. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor have two sons and one daughter.

**Benjamin J. Townsend**, deceased, who was one of the pioneer residents of Faribault, Minn., was a native of Shenango county, New York, his date of birth being July 28, 1834. Here he passed his boyhood and acquired his education in the district schools, coming West in 1855 and locating at Faribault, Minn., where he was engaged in gardening until his decease, March 6, 1906. In politics he was an independent, believing that nothing should dictate his vote but the best interests of the public. As to religious belief, he was a follower of the Catholic Church. October 20, 1867, he married Margaret Brady, of Steele county. Six children blessed this union, named, respectively: Charles, a painter, of Great Falls, Mont.; Alice, who is married to Frank Blair, of New York; Anna, who is the wife of William Powers, of Barnesville, Minn.; Margaret, of Fort Wayne, Ind.; George G., of Butte, Mont., and William, who is serving as a postal clerk at Faribault, is married. His wife's name before her marriage was Loretta Healy. They have one child, Leo. Mrs. Benjamin J. Townsend is a native of Canada, being born September 22, 1838. At the age of seventeen, she removed to Steele county, Minnesota, with her parents, where the father followed farming on his farm in Deer-

field township till his decease, January 10, 1901. The mother had previously died in 1896.

**Dr. James N. Tate**, the efficient superintendent of the Minnesota School for the Deaf, at Faribault, has made what has been practically a lifelong study of the best methods of preparing deaf children for their battle with the world, in which they are obviously handicapped by the omission from their God-given faculties of the sense of hearing. Dr. Tate was born in Fulton, Mo., October 14, 1851, and after receiving his preliminary training in the public schools of Calloway county, graduated from Westminster College with the degree of Bachelor of Science in 1873. His post-graduate course was completed in 1875, when the degree of Master of Arts was granted him. In 1904 his alma mater bestowed upon him the degree of LL. D., in recognition of his worth and achievements. His first experience as a teacher was in the public schools of his native state, after which he accepted a situation in the Missouri School for the Deaf, at Fulton, that state. As time passed, his interest grew, and, not content with performing merely the routine duties of his position, he made a thorough study of the more profound psychological and pedagogical aspects of his work. After several years of service he was made assistant superintendent of the institution and later became its superintendent. His success there has left an indelible impression on the methods for the care of the deaf in that state. Under his charge the Missouri school rose to sixth place in point of attendance among the schools of its kind in the United States. Its magnificent buildings, its well regulated system, and its wonderful degree of efficiency stand to-day, in a great measure due to his successful management. So highly esteemed was he by reason of this work that in 1896, when the venerable Dr. Noyes retired from the head of the Minnesota School for the Deaf, the board of managers, in looking over the field, selected Dr. Tate, declaring at the time that no better man could be found. Aside from his work at the school, Dr. Tate has taken an active interest in the welfare of Faribault and vicinity and has identified himself with its progress. He is a Democrat in politics, a Congregationalist in religion, and a thirty-second degree Mason in fraternal affiliation. Dr. Tate was married August 14, 1878, at Fulton, Mo., to Mary C. McClelland, at that time one of the most valued teachers in the institution there. Mrs. Tate has been an able helpmeet of her husband in all his undertakings. The Tate home has been blessed with two children: I. N., of Duluth, and Elizabeth, a student in the Minnesota University. Col. Isaac Tate and Jane W. (Henderson) Tate, parents of Dr. Tate, were sturdy old pioneers of Calloway county, Missouri. The former was a Kentuckian and the

latter a Virginian, both being of Scottish descent. Colonel Tate received his title from his position in the Missouri National Guard. Both he and his wife are now deceased.

**William A. Thompson** was born in Prairieville, Cannon City township, Rice county, Minn., June 25, 1858, and is a son of John and Nancy Thompson. His father was a native of Scotland, and his mother a native of the state of Ohio. His parents came to America when he was three years old and settled in Canada, where they remained until 1852. In that year they came to Faribault, Minn., remaining only a few months, when the father went to California, prospecting for gold. He remained there only a short time. Returning to Minnesota, he worked in a saw mill at Prairieville for several years, and then bought 120 acres of land in Cannon City, on which he has done general farming up to the present time. He is now eighty-nine years old, and his wife is in her seventies. William Thompson was educated in the district schools of Cannon City. After leaving school he worked on his father's farm until 1885, when he bought eighty acres in section 1 of Walcott township, where he has carried on general farming ever since.

In 1885 he was married to Dolly Orcutt, a daughter of B. and Sylvia (Dunning) Orcutt, both natives of the state of New York. Mr. Orcutt was a farmer by occupation. He came West and located first in Wisconsin and later in Cannon City, Minn., where he bought a farm on which he carried on general farming until his death. Mrs. Orcutt died in 1908. Mr. Thompson's first wife died in 1889, leaving three children: Neal, Francis W. and Mark C. All are living at home with their parents. In 1890 Mr. Thompson was married to Otelia Zable, a daughter of William and Henrietta Zable, both natives of Germany, who came to America and located in Richland township, Rice county, where for a while he worked out on a farm, and later he bought eighty acres and did general farming until 1905, when he retired and moved to Faribault, where he died in 1906. Mrs. Zable is still living in Faribault.

Mr. Thompson had five children by his second wife: George M., John W., Walter J., Anna and William, all living at home with their parents. In politics Mr. Thompson is a Republican. He was elected as a member of the school board in 1899 and served for seven years. In 1905 he was elected town supervisor and is still holding that office. He is a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator Company of Faribault. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church and of the Modern Woodmen of America.

**Theodore Thom**, a prominent farmer of Richland township, was born in Germany, January 20, 1837, to John and Katherine

(Heins) Thom, natives of Germany. They came to America in 1847 and located in Kenosha county, Wisconsin, where the elder Mr. Thom bought 140 acres of farm land in Paris township, on which he did a general farming up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1865. The mother expired two months later the same year. The subject of this sketch acquired his education in Germany. After coming to this country, he worked on his father's farm until 1855; he then went to Pierce county, Wisconsin, where he bought 180 acres of wild timber land, remaining there until 1857, when he returned to his father's home, staying there until 1858. He then went back to Pierce county, sold his tract of timber land, buying in place of it 120 acres of prairie land, where he carried on general farming until 1861, at which time he sold this farm and bought the Union Hotel at Prescott, Wis., following the hotel business until 1864, when he sold out. The month of June and July, 1864, were spent in traveling through the country for the purpose of finding a suitable location for a farm. This was found in Richland township, Rice county, Minn. Here he bought 160 acres of land in sections 17 and 18. Later he added an additional 240 acres, making a farm of 400 acres in all. By hard work and persevering effort, Mr. Thom has improved his farm until it is now one of the best farms in the country. In addition to carrying on general farming, he raised Coach and Percheron horses; the raising of horses, however, was discontinued in 1898, and at that time he went into the raising of Shorthorn cattle for beef and dairy purposes, which he still follows with success. His farm is known as the Richland Stock Farm. It is modern in every respect, and is equipped with all the latest farm machinery. Mr. Thom is a good, broad-minded man, always willing to promote the welfare of his community. He has served on the school board in all its branches; has served on the town board as chairman, treasurer and supervisor; is a charter member and assistant in organizing the Walcott Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company; and has served as president since the time of the organization. He is also president of the Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Company of Faribault. Mr. Thom was married in 1859 to Josephine, daughter of Joseph and Josephine Dauser, natives of Whitenburg, Germany. The father was a cabinetmaker by trade and emigrated to America in 1850. He located in Schuylkill county, Pennsylvania, working in the coal mines there until 1856. He then came West to Wisconsin and located in Pierce county, where he bought government land, which he improved and on which he did general farming until 1865, when he sold the farm and came to Minnesota, locating in Richland township, Rice county, where he bought 160 acres, on



which he did general farming up to the time of his decease. Mrs. Dauser is also dead. Mr. and Mrs. Thom have five children, named, in the respective order of their birth: Mary, who died May 28, 1879; Elizabeth, now Mrs. John Henricks, attendant at the state asylum at Faribault; Fredrick, who farmed in Richland township, died August 31, 1896; Joseph, who is married and conducts a grocery business in Faribault; John is an electrician at the state asylum in Faribault. Mrs. Thom died in 1877. Mr. Thom was married a second time in January 21, 1878, to Miss Susian Henricks, daughter of Nicholas and Margaret (Hermies) Henricks, natives of Germany. The father, who is a farmer, came to America in 1862, located in St. Paul, where he worked as a general laborer until 1864, when he moved to Faribault, where he lived until his death, March 12, 1899. Mrs. Henricks died in 1882. To this union there were nine children born, viz.: Margaret died August 14, 1879; Mary, now Mrs. Nichol Schweistal, farmer in Warsaw township; Josephine, who is married to Joseph McCall, farmer in Montana; Anna, Dominican Sister at Dubuque, Iowa; Everet, Anthony, Christopher, Katherine and Verna, who are all residing with their parents. Mr. Thom does not favor any political party, but votes for the candidate whom he considers best fitted for the office, regardless of party affiliations. He with his family belong to the Roman Catholic Church.

**Jonathan Peterson Temple**, a retired farmer of Morristown, Minn., is a native of St. Lawrence county, New York, and is the second of a family of six children born to Jacob and Lucy (Eddy) Temple. The father, who was a homeopathic physician, was born at Heath, Mass., March 6, 1812. He married December 31, 1834, his wife being a daughter of Leonard and Phœbe Eddy, of Coloraine, Mass. Dr. Temple went to St. Lawrence county, New York, in 1835 and practiced farming there till 1854, when he moved with his family to Mason City, Ill. Eleven years later he settled in Morristown, Minn., where he practiced medicine, and there died, February 16, 1884. Both Dr. Temple and his wife were active members of the Baptist denomination, she uniting with the church in 1831, at Coloraine, and his membership extending over a period of more than fifty years; and in the churches of the different places where he lived he served in the various offices of clerk, trustee, deacon, etc. The mother died January 30, 1891, and her body rests beside that of her husband, in the Morristown cemetery. Dr. Temple was a member of the Masonic order.

Of their six children, the eldest, David A., was born June 10, 1836, and died at Morristown. The third child, Phœbe Olive, was born September 12, 1841, and on January 1, 1861, was mar-





JOHN THOMPSON

ried to Sterling R. Hess, and lives in Mason City, Ill.; Lucy Belinda, born December 19, 1844, was married December 30, 1863, to Elisha O. Hess, and lives at Mason City, Ill.; Marshall Allen, born November 14, 1846, in Rice county, Minnesota, lives in Dundas, and Judson C., the youngest, born October 12, 1850, is employed as accountant with the Duluth and Iron Range Railroad Company. Our subject acquired his education in his native place, and at Mason City, whither the family removed in 1854. In 1862 he enlisted in Company C, Eighty-fifth Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served till the close of the Civil War. On his return home he engaged in farming. In the spring of 1869 Mr. Temple moved from Mason City to Rice county, Minnesota, settling on a farm he purchased, in the northwest corner of Morristown township, but two years later he bought a store and moved into the village of Morristown, and for twelve years was engaged in clerking. During that time the village received its first charter, and Mr. Temple was chairman of the council, after which he resumed farming, and continued it until his removal to the village in the fall of 1891. He then had charge of the elevator for seven years, and was postmaster for five years. Mr. Temple has always been more or less active in public affairs and has served in numerous official positions. He has been chairman of the township board, also served as clerk, assessor and school treasurer, and in 1906 was president of the village council, having held this office several times previously. In 1888 he was elected to the state legislature and served one term. In religious faith he is affiliated with the Baptist denomination and has served in the various church offices of trustee, clerk, etc. On January 1, 1861, Mr. Temple married Diantha Osborn, who was born in Steuben county, New York, in 1835. They have had a family of eight children, of whom Ida, the eldest, born September 27, 1861, is married to Lewis Youells; Arthur, born April 15, 1866, died in Washington, D. C.; Lewis, born January 8, 1868, lives on the home farm; Irwin Osborn was born October 7, 1869; Rollin, born November 16, 1871, died in California, December 22, 1896; Vernon, born August 15, 1878, lives on the family homestead. Gertrude, born January 15, 1878, is married to William Davis, and lives at Fergus Falls; and Cecil, the youngest, born August 7, 1881, is a farmer in Morristown township.

**John Thompson**, a retired farmer of Faribault, Minn., is a native of Perthshire, Scotland, and was born January 28, 1829, to Alexander and Cecelia (Robinson) Thompson, who came from Scotland, their native land, in 1832, and settled on a farm in eastern Ontario, and there passed their lives. Our subject acquired his education in the public schools of his Canadian



home, and at the age of eighteen years began life on his own account, lumbering in the surrounding county. Going to California in 1852, he spent three years there prospecting, but in the fall of 1855 returned, and came to Minnesota, and worked at lumbering and in a saw mill at Faribault and in a grist mill at Cannon City. In 1859 he bought a tract of 160 acres of school land in section 36, Cannon City township, which he at once began to break up and improve, and where he reared his family and made his home till his retirement from active work. Besides carrying on general farming, Mr. Thompson operated a thresher for twenty-three years, and introduced and operated the first steam threshing machine in his section of the country. Mr. Thompson has been a representative man in his community and has filled numerous official positions. He served in the state legislature in 1878, 1879 and 1881, and in the last named year and again in 1882 he was called to serve in special sessions when the bond question was before the people. Mr. Thompson is a Republican in his political beliefs. His religious affiliations are with the Presbyterian Church. In July, 1857, Mr. Thompson married Miss Ellen, daughter of Bevins and Sarah (McKey) Henderson, who moved from Ohio, their native state, to Indiana, whence in 1856 they removed to Minnesota and settled in Richland township, Rice county, where the father pre-empted two quarter sections of land, and where the family lived fifteen years. They afterwards lived three years at Faribault, and then moved to Dundas, where they passed the remainder of their lives, the mother dying in August, 1887, and the father in October, 1909, at the age of ninety-three years. Of three children born to Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, William A., the eldest, is married and lives in the town of Walcott, Rice county; Alice, the youngest, died in infancy; George W., who was born November 6, 1863, has had charge of the home farm since 1905, and carries on general farming and stock raising. He has served in local offices, such as supervisor, etc., and has served two terms (1905-1907) as representative. In politics he is a Republican, and in religious faith a Presbyterian. On October 14, 1892, he married Miss Frances J. Mullan, whose parents, Robert and Etta Howk, moved from New York, their native state, in 1880, and settled on a farm in Walcott township, where the father died. The mother now resides at Faribault. Mr. and Mrs. George W. Thompson have five children, named, in order of their birth: Ella M., Cecelia G., Stanley, Eleanor and Frances.

**Clarence H. Tripp**, live stock dealer and farmer, is a native-born son of this county, born in Walcott township, December 9, 1861. He received his education in the district schools of Walcott township and the public schools of Faribault, after which

he clerked for a time in a store. Subsequently he farmed in Walcott and Richland township, and also became a dealer in live stock, an occupation which he still continues. He has been a member of the school board several years, but aside from this has not cared to participate actively in public life.

Oliver and Hannah (Gillette) Tripp, the pioneers, parents of Clarence H. Tripp, assisted in the development of the county in the early days. They were natives of New York state and Pennsylvania, respectively, migrated to Wisconsin in the early days, and in 1855 came to this county, taking up 160 acres of wild land in Cannon City township, where they spent the remainder of their days.

**A. F. Uggen** was born in Norway August 21, 1852; he is a son of Fingar and Anne Uggen, natives of Norway, who came to America in 1871 and located in Forest township, Rice county, where the father rented a farm for one year, and then bought 160 acres on which he did a general farming up to the time of his death, in 1883; the mother died in 1897. Mr. Uggen attended school in Norway, and came to America with his parents. In 1873 he bought 160 acres from his father. He has added to this and now has a farm of 278 acres in sections 13 and 14, on which he has carried on general farming up to the present time. He was married in 1874 to Oline Juvrud. Mrs. Uggen died in 1889. Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Uggen: Fredrica, Mary A., Oscar, Albert, Martin E., Julia and Inga C. In 1893 Mr. Uggen was married a second time to Olina Olson, and has a family of five children: Alma, Carl, Anne, Mabel and Lillian. In politics Mr. Uggen is a Republican, and he is a member of the Lutheran Church. He has served for many years as town treasurer. He was for several years a director on the school board, and has been clerk of the board for the past eight years. He is a stockholder in the Northfield Elevator and in the Forest Creamery.

**Henry E. Vaux**, a hustling and prominent citizen of Faribault, Minn., is a native of Warsaw township, and was born January 17, 1865. When about seven years old, his parents removed to a small farm near Faribault. After finishing his education in the district schools of Rice county, he took up farming with much success and followed that line until 1896, when he entered the employ of the Faribault Canning Company. The following year (1897) he was chosen superintendent of the company, which position he has ably and satisfactorily filled ever since. Under his shrewd and judicious management, the Faribault Canning Company has grown and prospered, its products being sold all over the Northwest. Mr. Vaux is also a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator of Faribault. He is a Republi

can in politics, but has never aspired to public office, his business demanding all his time and attention. On October 1, 1908, he married Lydia M. Hohenhaus, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Hohenhaus, prominent farmers of Wells township. Mr. and Mrs. Vaux have a beautiful home in the residence district of Faribault. They attend the Methodist Episcopal Church. Ernest and Carrie (Johnson) Vaux, parents of Henry E. Vaux, are natives of England and Indiana, respectively. They migrated to Faribault, Minn., in 1856, and the father was a teamster for a time on the road from Faribault to Hastings. Later he purchased a forty-acre tract in Warsaw township, and there carried on general diversified farming up to the time of his retirement from active work, a few years ago. He now resides in the city of Faribault. The mother died April 25, 1907.

**Anthony J. Vogelsberg**, a native of Minnesota, was born at Faribault, November 10, 1873, and is a son of F. J. and Catherine (Detrich) Vogelsberg, natives of Germany. The father came to this country and for six years lived at Chicago, whence he moved in 1866 to Faribault; a little later he established himself in the retail flour and feed business, and followed it until his decease, January 13, 1890. The mother passed away October 27, 1908. Our subject supplemented his common-school education with a two years' course of study at St. Thomas' College, St. Paul, and then took charge of his father's business, which he closed out after the father's death. He then spent nine years clerking in the grocery house of Mr. A. J. Grant, of Faribault, then, in 1901, opened a grocery business in the store he now occupies, in company with Mr. George E. Devery. This partnership lasted till April, 1904, and since that time Mr. Vogelsberg has conducted the business in his own name. He carries a first-class stock of groceries and family supplies, and in every respect conducts an up-to-date store, employing four clerks and two wagons, delivering goods to every part of the city. Mr. Vogelsberg has always devoted himself diligently to his business and has never held or sought any official position. He adheres to the Catholic faith in religion, and in politics is independent in his views and actions. He is identified with the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Order of Foresters and B. P. O. Elks, and belongs to the Commercial Club of Faribault. On June 19, 1900, Mr. Vogelsberg married Julia K. McCall, whose parents came from Ireland, their native country, and settled at Faribault, where the father, now retired, followed his trade as a stone cutter and contractor. The mother passed away in 1901. Mr. and Mrs. Vogelsberg have three children, named, in their order of birth, Francis, Thomas and Robert.

**J. A. Valesh** was born in Veseli, August 3, 1881. He is a son of Albert and Katherine (Lamac) Valesh, natives of Bohemia. The father came to America in 1877 and located in Veseli, Rice county, where he and his wife have lived up to the present time. Mr. Valesh was educated in the public schools of Veseli, and also attended a business college at Mankato in 1904 and 1905. After leaving school he learned the trade of a brick-mason, which he still follows. He was married January 23, 1905, to Maria M. Shimota, a daughter of W. T. and Anna (Vrtis) Shimota, the father a native of Bohemia, and the mother born at New Prague, Minn. The father died July 1, 1908, and the mother is still living in Veseli. One child has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Valesh, Ernest, born November 24, 1906. Mr. Valesh is a member of the Roman Catholic Church, and in his political views he is a Republican. On March 3, 1908, he was appointed postmaster of Veseli, and he is also a justice of the peace. He is a member of the Z. C. K. J., or the Western Bohemian Catholic Union, and carries an old line policy in the New York Life.

**O. S. Vesledal**, a thrifty farmer of Wheeling township, where he has lived for a number of years, was born in Rock Prairie, Wis., December 15, 1854, to S. A. and Margaret (Haugen) Vesledal, both natives of Norway. The parents emigrated to America in the early fifties, locating in Hudson county, Wisconsin, where they were engaged in farming until 1854. Selling out their interests in Wisconsin, they moved to Minnesota and located in Rice county, township of Wheeling, where the father bought 240 acres in section 10, which he improved, and on which he carried on general farming until 1906. He then sold his farm to his son, J. S., the parents continuing to live on the old homestead with the son until his father expired, August 2, 1908. The mother died September 15, 1908. The subject of this sketch acquired his education in the district schools of Rice county. After leaving school he worked on his father's farm, continuing there until 1889. Then he bought 160 acres in section 1, township of Wheeling, where he has been engaged in farming and dairying up to the present time. He also has a fine apple orchard, where he raises different varieties of this fruit.

Mr. Vesledal was married in 1889 to Severina, daughter of Syver and Magdelina (Hamre) Engesetter, who were both natives of Norway, and emigrated to America in 1850, locating in Dane county, Wisconsin, where they farmed until 1855, when they came to Minnesota and located in Rice county, Wheeling township, where they homesteaded 160 acres. The father was engaged in farming until the time of his decease, which occurred in 1888. Mrs. Engesetter died in 1871. The home of Mr. and



Mrs. Vesledal is blessed with six children, viz.: Sigwart, born September 7, 1889; John G., born September 10, 1891, and died September 3, 1892; John G. was born July 15, 1892; Albert O. was born July 21, 1894; Margaret M., born January 11, 1900; Senora O. was born November 11, 1901. All the children are living at home. Mr. Vesledal is a Republican voter. He and his family adhere to the Norwegian Lutheran Church. He takes an active interest in public affairs and at this time (1910) is serving on the school board.

**J. S. Vesledal** was born in the town of Wheeling, Rice county, on July 16, 1869. He is a son of S. A. and Margarit (Haugen) Vesledal, both natives of Norway. The father was a farmer and came to America in the early fifties. He located in Hudson county, Wisconsin, and farmed there until 1854, when he sold his farm there and moved to Minnesota, locating in the town of Wheeling, Rice county, where he bought a farm of 240 acres in section 10, on which he carried on general farming up to 1906, when he sold his farm to his son, with whom he made his home up to the time of his death, on August 2, 1908. The mother died September 15, 1908. Mr. Vesledal was educated in the district schools of Wheeling. After leaving school he went back onto the farm, where he worked with his father until he bought the farm in 1906. Since then he has carried on general farming. He was married on June 29, 1905, to Inger R. Engesth, a daughter of Ingerbrit and Dorda (Hamre) Engesth, both natives of Norway. The father was a farmer, who came to America in the early fifties, and located in Dane county, Wisconsin, where he farmed for a few years, and then came to Minnesota and located in the town of Northfield, Rice county. Here he bought a farm, on which he did general farming until his death, November 11, 1892; the mother died September 15, 1898. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Vesledal: Mildred D. and S. Isabell, both living at home with their parents. Mr. Vesledal is a Lutheran in his religious belief, and his political affiliations are with the Republican party.

**L. F. Von Eschen** is an enterprising business man of Morris-town, Rice county, Minn. He was born in Le Sueur county in 1871. His father, Jacob Von Eschen, in early days was pastor of the German Evangelical Church, and later was a homeopathic physician, and for many years practiced his profession in Lac qui Parle county, Minnesota, with eminent success. He moved to Lac qui Parle county in 1878 and died in 1898. He married Margaret Flury, who still survives. They had a family of eleven children, seven of whom are still living (1910). Our subject passed his boyhood on a farm in Lac qui Parle county and acquired his preliminary education in the district schools. In

1894 he attended the high school at Big Stone, and later pursued a course of study at a business college in Minneapolis, preparatory to going into business. In 1902 Mr. Von Eschen associated himself as a partner with Messrs. A. E. and S. R. Miller, under the firm name of Miller Brothers & Company, established the business that has since been conducted under that name at Morristown, dealing in all kinds of hardware and farm implements, with all the modern and up-to-date methods. Mr. Von Eschen gives his attention especially to the bookkeeping of the house. Aside from his regular business, Mr. Von Eschen is active in other matters, and is recognized as one of the enterprising and public-spirited men of the town. Since 1908 he has served as village recorder, and is also secretary of the Morristown Telephone Company. On February 9, 1905, Mr. Von Eschen married Julia, daughter of Mr. John Walter, who was formerly connected with farming, but who now is retired from active business. Mr. and Mrs. Von Eschen have one child, a son, named Daro.

**Edgar J. Vaux**, a native of Warsaw township, Rice county, was born June 30, 1867. He passed his boyhood on his father's farm, receiving his education in the district schools, after which he assisted his father in the working of the family homestead till 1889. He rented land for a few years, then purchased a tract of thirty-five acres inside the city limits of Faribault, where he followed general farming until 1905, when he accepted the position of foreman of the Faribault Canning Company, which he has efficiently filled ever since. During the winter months he is entrusted with the entire management of the establishment. He is still carrying on the farm in connection with the canning factory work. In politics he is an adherent of the Republican party, but has never aspired to public office, his other affairs absorbing all his time and attention. He is identified with the Modern Brotherhood of America, his popularity being attested to by the numerous offices he has held in that body, having served two terms as vice-president and two as president. The Methodist Episcopal Church also numbers him among its supporters. Mr. Vaux was married October 2, 1891, at the First Methodist Church of Faribault, by Rev. Samuel H. Dewart, to Julia Craven, daughter of John and Mary Craven. They have two children, Elroy, born April 5, 1894, a student of the local high school, and Harold C., born October 10, 1895, who attends the Central school. Ernest and Carrie (Johnson) Vaux, parents of Edgar J., were among the pioneer settlers of Rice county, the father coming from England to America in 1825; came to Minnesota in 1855, and engaged in farming in Warsaw township until his retirement from active work, a few years ago. He is now living

in Faribault. The mother died April 25, 1907. John Craven, the father of Mrs. Edgar Vaux, followed market gardening in Faribault until his death in October, 1900. His wife is still living.

**Emery F. Wheelock**, a successful business man of Northfield, was born in Steele county, Minnesota, in 1877, and is a son of Edwin D. and Liza (McClalland) Wheelock. His father removed from the East and settled in Illinois prior to 1860, and in 1863 enlisted in Company G, Seventeenth Regiment, Illinois Volunteers cavalry and served through the Civil war. After his discharge from the service he settled in Steele county, Minnesota and lived there till 1878, and then moved to Watertown, S. D., where he still follows his trade as a miller, and where he has filled a number of important public offices. Our subject acquired his education in the public schools in Dakota, and supplemented this with a course of study in a business college. Thus equipped he, in 1901, took a position with the Laird-Norton Lumber Company, which was organized in 1857 and is one of the oldest in the Northwest. Mr. Wheelock has had charge of the Company's yards in different places, but in 1905 was placed in charge of the business at Northfield and moved thither. Mr. Wheelock has attained satisfactory success in his business and lives in a pleasant house on Union street. He is a member of the Masonic Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. In political sentiment he is a Republican. In 1904 Mr. Wheelock married Myrtle, a daughter of George E. Hopkins, who was one of the pioneers of Rochester, Minnesota, and who removed thence with his family to South Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. Wheelock have one child, named Winona.

**Charles M. Whitney**, a prominent business man of Faribault, is a native of Dummerston, Vt., his date of birth being February 10, 1828. Received his education in the public schools of Keene, N. H., and in Franklin academy, of Ft. Covington, N. Y. Immediately thereafter, in 1842, he entered the general merchandise business as a clerk, being located in Franklin county, New York. This line of work claimed his attention for the next fifteen years, the last three years of which time he was in business for himself at Bangor, N. Y. In 1857, he disposed of his mercantile interests and came west, locating at La Crosse, Wis., April 6 of the same year. He was first employed as a clerk and then as overseer in a sawmill. Entered into partnership with Buttrick Brothers in the fall of 1857, and was engaged in the milling business for a time, starting one of the first flour mills of La Crosse. October 20, 1858, he entered the employ of the La Crosse & Milwaukee Railway Company, and remained there

till 1866. During this period he helped to organize the La Crosse and Minnesota Steam Packet Company of La Crosse, commonly known as the Davidson Line, running from La Crosse to St. Paul, of which he became secretary. Selling his interest in 1866, he started an individual line from La Crosse to Eau Claire and St. Paul, and devoted his entire attention to this work, meeting with much success. In 1879 he went to Canton, Mo., and engaged in opposition, for Com. William F. Davidson in grain and stocks, against the Keokuk and St. Louis Railway until December 1884, when he came to Faribault and January, 1885, entered the First National Bank as assistant cashier, subsequently being promoted to cashier in 1892. There he remained till January 1, 1905, when he turned his attention to the insurance business, becoming manager for his son, George S. Whitney, which position he still holds. Mr. Whitney is a Democrat in politics, and besides looking after his large and varied business interests, has always found time to lend a helping hand to all projects for the public good. He served as town clerk at Ft. Covington, N. Y., and was assessor in La Crosse one year. He is prominent in fraternal organizations, being a member of the Masons, Knights of Honor, and Royal Arcanum. In religious belief, he holds to the tenets of the Episcopal Church. October 7, 1850, at Fairfax, Vt., he was united in marriage to Delia M. Safford. They have two children, Harry E., professor at the Shattuck school at Faribault, and George S., who is assistant adjutant general of Minnesota, and also conducts a thriving real estate and insurance business at Faribault.

**George L. Weinberger** is a successful business man of Faribault, Minnesota, where he has carried on a successful grocery trade for more than twenty years. He is a native of Rice county and was born at Warsaw, March 28, 1868. His parents, Lawrence and Frances (Wood) Weinberger, natives of Germany and Scotland, respectively, came to this country in 1852 and settled in Wisconsin on a farm. In 1855 the family moved to Warsaw in Rice county, where the father pre-empted a quarter section of land, which he afterwards sold and bought the farm of two hundred and sixteen acres where he now lives and carries on general farming. George L. after finishing his schooling in the public schools of his home district worked on the home farm until he attained his majority in 1889 and then spent twelve years clerking in the grocery house of A. J. Grant at Faribault. In 1901 he formed his present partnership with Mr. Eigenbrodt, and together they have conducted a successful grocery trade which has grown to large proportions, in the city and adjacent country, under their wise and conservative management. Mr. Weinberger has devoted himself closely to his business, so that he



had little leisure for outside affairs, and he has never sought or held any office. He is a Republican in his political opinions, and in his religious belief adheres to the faith of the Episcopal Church. He is a member of the commercial club of Faribault and belongs to the Masonic Order. On April 12, 1899, Mr. Weinberger married Laura Kirk, whose parents, Thomas and Mary (Thompson) Kirk, came from England, their native country, and settled on a farm at Roberds Lake, Minnesota, in 1860, and there the father spent the remainder of his life, passing away in 1869. The mother survived till 1909.

**Harry W. Wolf**, well known among the prosperous merchants of Faribault, is a native of Minnesota, and was born in Wheeling township, Rice county, May 10, 1873. His parents, John B. and Catherine E. (Filbert) Wolf, who now lives in Faribault, are natives of Germany and Buffalo, N. Y., respectively. The father came to this country when he was five years old with his father's family and lived near Chicago and there acquired his education. The family moved to Minnesota, June 1, 1855, and engaged in general farming in Rice county and established the family home there. In 1890 our subject's father retired from farming and with his wife took up his residence in Faribault. Harry W. attended the district schools in his native place, and also the public schools of Faribault, and began his business life clerking in a dry goods store there. When he was twenty-six years old, in 1899, he established himself in the dry goods business and has since that time carried it on with marked success in the same place; and to-day—1910—is proprietor of an up-to-date establishment, carrying a full and complete line of dry goods, cloaks, mens' and womens' furnishings, rugs, etc., in fact everything that belongs to the stock of first class, modern department stores. Mr. Wolf gives his attention closely to his business and finds little time for outside affairs, though he is a member of the commercial club of Faribault and has served on its committees. He is a Republican in political sentiments, and in religious belief adheres to the Evangelical Faith. On September 21, 1897, Mr. Wolf married Lydia A., daughter of Christ. and Elizabeth (Bosshardt) Bauernfeind, the former a native of Wisconsin, and the latter of Philadelphia. They moved to Minnesota about 1856 and settled on a farm. They are now living in the village of Nerstrand. Mr. and Mrs. Wolf have two children, viz: Harry W. and Catherine Elizabeth by name.

**William Wachlin**, a native of Prussia, Germany, was born July 17, 1841. He received a good education in the public schools of the Fatherland, afterwards emigrating to America at the age of sixteen and locating at Madison, Wis., where he spent four years learning the harness trade. At the completion of his

apprenticeship, he came to Faribault, Minn., the now populous city being but a village at that time. Shortly afterwards, during the Indian outbreak of 1862, he with the other pioneer settlers was called upon to fight for their lives against the savages. Mr. Wachlin followed the harness business for two years by himself, becoming known as an expert workman. He then entered into partnership with August Mortonson, the firm continuing without change till 1898, when Mr. Wachlin retired and has since devoted his entire attention to his duties as superintendent of the Maple Lawn Cemetery, which position he has occupied since 1897. In politics, he inclines toward the tenets of the Democratic party, but always casts his ballot for what he considers the best interests of the community. He has served his city as alderman of the third ward one term. Mr. Wachlin is a member of the Congregational Church. In May, 1866, he was married to Jane Benson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Christian Benson who followed farming in Goodhue county till the father's decease in 1877. The mother died in '88. Mr. and Mrs. Wachlin have three children, William, born May 10, 1867, who died September 9, 1873; Albert H., who was born May 16, 1869, and died June 6, 1893; and Gertrude, married to J. H. Foster, assistant general superintendent of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, located at Minneapolis. The Wachlin residence is at 509 Second street, West. Frederick and Caroline Wachlin, parents of our subject, were natives of Germany where the father followed gardening all his life. His death occurred in 1849, and the mother's in '54.

**William M. Wickham**, a pioneer of Minnesota, was born in Orange county, New York, June 2, 1832. He was reared in his native state and in 1855 came to Minnesota and settled in Faribault. In 1860 he went to Hastings, and there operated a lumber mill one year. In 1861, filled with a desire to serve his country, he offered himself for enlistment, but on account of the condition of his health, he was rejected by the army examining board. He thereupon purchased a farm in Warsaw township, Goodhue county, and remained there until 1879 when he came to Northfield and erected the home where he still resides. Mr. Wickham is liberal in political views, and has never sought or held public office. Fraternally he is a member of Northfield Lodge, No. 42, A. F. & A. M. He and his wife belong to the pioneer societies of Northfield and St. Paul. Mr. Wickham was married December 4, 1856, to Charlotte Crump, born in the city of London, England, December 19, 1838, a daughter of Thomas G. and Mary Crump, both natives of England, who came to Faribault in 1855. To Mr. and Mrs. Wickham was born one daughter, Ida M., who first saw the light of day in Hastings.

Minn., November 24, 1860. She was married June 20, 1887, to Dr. H. C. Johnson. Dr. and Mrs. Johnson live in St. Paul and have one daughter, Charlotte Marie, born August 4, 1891. The family are members of the All Saints Episcopal Church, of Northfield. The parents of William M. Wickham were Selah and Fannie (Morrell) Wickham, both natives of Orange county, New York, the former born March 20, 1805, and the mother, March 22, 1809. They spent all their days in New York. The mother died April 9, 1848, and the father in October, 1887. The family consisted of eight children: Jane; William M.; Maria (deceased); John C. (deceased); J. B. of Faribault; Charles, of Bradford county, Pennsylvania; Eliza Jane (deceased); and Mrs. Charles Boss, of Sauk Center, Minn.

**Stiles M. West**, for many years one of Faribault's most prominent and influential citizens, was born in Madison county, New York, June 21, 1841. While still an infant, his parents removed to Dane county, Wisconsin, where he passed his boyhood, receiving his education in the public schools and in an academy at Albion, Dane county, Wisconsin. After school, he remained home with his parents for a time until about 1860, when he removed to Jackson county, Minnesota, and shortly afterwards was elected sheriff—an honor not usually bestowed on a nineteen year old boy, especially in those virile pioneer times when the office demanded the services of a man of the utmost courage and resource—but he capably filled his position until the call to arms in '61, enlisting at Fort Snelling together with his father and two brothers in the Second Minnesota Cavalry. He entered as a private, but when the company was re-organized at St. Louis he was made Sergeant Major of his Battalion, and later was promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant of the commissary department, which he held until mustered out in January, 1865, at Nashville, Tenn. The war over, he came to Warsaw township, Rice county, Minnesota, and purchased a farm to which he devoted most of his time and attention until 1902, when he removed to Faribault and engaged in collecting for a time. He is now a traveling salesman. The Republican party claims him as an active adherent, and he has served the public in many places of trust, being a member of the State legislature in 1878, in the revenue service from '89 to '93, and a State inspector in the dairy and food department from 1895 to 1900. He was also chairman of the board of supervisors of Warsaw township for five consecutive years. The Masonic order and the Michael Cook post of the G. A. R. know him as a valued member of their organizations. November 16, 1865, at Faribault, he was married to Sarah Dawes, who died in 1902, leaving seven children, Marion, Charles and Herbert having previously deceased. The

names of the other children in the order of their births are: Stiles H., who conducts the old home farm in Warsaw township; Susie A., wife of Elmer Heath, living in Washington; Rollin M., cashier of the Cobden State Bank of Cobden, Minn.; Angie, married to Edward Draper, of Warsaw township; and Nellie, a teacher in the schools of Jamestown, N. D.; George D., in the mercantile business at Miles City, Mont., with his brother Fred R. Mr. West was again married, October 14, 1904, to Nellie G. Bemis, of Faribault. The family are loyal members of the Episcopal Church. David M. and Angeline (Pease) West, parents of our subject, were born and reared in the state of New York. Migrating west in '43, they first located in Michigan, remaining here two years when they removed to Dane county, Wisconsin, where the father wrestled a living from the soil after the fashion of those wild pioneer times for six years, also serving as deputy sheriff. In 1851, he came with his family to Leon, La Crosse county, Wisconsin, and established a tavern at this place, and stage line from Prairie Du Chien to Black River Falls, attending to his duties as postmaster in addition. In 1859, he came to Jackson county, Minnesota, and engaged in farming till the breaking out of the war, in which he saw two years of active service, being honorably discharged on account of sickness. Coming to Warsaw township, Rice county, Minnesota, he engaged in farming till 1870, when he moved with his family to California where he died November 24 of the same year, ending a well spent and useful life. His wife, now eighty years old, is still living at Oakland, Cal.

**John M. Walden**, of Northfield, well known in fraternal circles, was born at Moosehead Lakes, Maine, October 28, 1848. He received his education in the public schools of Hastings and East Castle Rock, Dakota county. In 1868 he came with his parents to Webster, this county, and remained at home until 1893 when, upon the removal of his parents to Northfield, he became engaged in gardening and bee culture. At one time, Mr. Walden kept as many as 200 stands of bees, but of late years he has reduced that number to 80 or 90. Mr. Walden is independent in politics, and in April, 1909, was elected alderman of the third ward by a non-partisan vote. His four years' service on the school board has been highly appreciated. Being of a social nature, Mr. Walden has for many years been identified with prominent fraternities. In the local lodge of Odd Fellows he has filled all the chairs, has represented the local lodge in the Grand Lodge, and has been for some years a director of the Odd Fellows home, located in this place. In Masonry he has been no less active, being at the present time the Worshipful Master of Social Lodge, No. 48, A. F. & A. M., in which position he has



served three years, having previously been senior warden two years and senior deacon one year. He is also a member of Corinthian Chapter, No. 33, R. A. M. His religious duties have not been neglected, and for fourteen years he has served the local Methodist Episcopal Church as a member of the official board. Mr. Walden was married May 22, 1889, to Grace N. Glyzer, born in Webster township, Rice county, August 25, 1865, daughter of David and Caroline (Clapp) Glyzer, who settled in Webster township in the early days, both being now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Walden have been born two children: Florence E., born August 7, 1890 and Ruth D. born August 16, 1900. John G. Walden, father of John M., was born in New York and was married in Maine to Harriett D. Wilson, born in Maine, April 29, 1832. They located in Hastings in August, 1855, and the following spring pre-empted 160 acres in East Castle Rock, Dakota county, where they remained until 1860, when the father made a trip to Pike's Peak in search of gold. In 1868 he came back to Dakota county, and moved his family to Webster, Rice county, where he purchased a farm and remained until 1893 when he moved to Northfield and there resided until his death in October, 1893. His wife is still living. Beside John M., there were two daughters in the family. Mrs. S. B. Barlow is dead. Mrs. Lydia S. Burnett lives in La Sueur Center, Minn.

**Herbert A. Whittier**, railroad contractor and street commissioner of Northfield, was born in this city, November 5, 1863, son of Charles F. and Margaret (Wilmarth) Whittier. He attended the city schools and remained at home until attaining his majority, at which time he established a milk route which he conducted one year. In 1884 he leased land in Bridgewater township and opened a stone quarry, carrying on that business until 1896 when he started railroad contracting at which he has since been so successful. He has had many important contracts with different roads, among them being the building of fifteen miles for the Northern Pacific, fifty miles for the Great Northern at Towner, N. D., and sixty for the same road near Devils Lake, N. D., as well as ninety miles on the coast line of the C. M. & St. P. between the east line of Montana to Cato in the same state. He was married March 30, 1887, to Amarit Drake, born in Bridgewater township, Rice county, February 7, 1864. To this union have been born three children: Grace A., October 20, 1895; Glen H., December 13, 1898 and Gladys R., July 21, 1904. Mr. Whittier is a Republican in politics and a member of the A. O. U. W.

The parents of Mrs. Herbert A. Whittier were E. S. and Martha (Clark) Drake, the former born in Lake county, Ohio, August 17, 1828, and the latter near Brocton, N. Y., August 11,

1831. They were married in Wisconsin and came to Rice county, Minnesota, in 1855 living first on a farm four miles south of Northfield. In 1864 they purchased a farm two miles south in Bridgewater township. Here E. S. Drake and his wife lived until 1895 when they retired from active life and moved to Northfield, where the father died, April 29, 1909, and where the mother is still living. In the family were eight children: Arthur I., of Northfield; Joseph E., of Northfield; Isabell M., married to Henry Harrison, of St. Paul; Mrs. M. E. Bullock, of Stillwater, N. D.; Mrs. H. A. Whittier, of Northfield; Sumner E., of Northfield; Mrs. Charles H. Wirtz, of Knox, N. D., and William E., of Northfield.

**Charles F. Whittier** was born in Newport, N. H., and was there married to Margaret Wilmarth, a native of the same place. They came to Minnesota in the early days and pre-empted 120 acres in Northfield township, where they continued to reside for many years, moving to Northfield city in 1885. Mr. Whittier was a progressive farmer, and did much toward improving the blood strains of his stock, having on his place the Morgan horses and Suffolk hogs. He was also interested in dairying, and manufactured the Cooley creamers. He also operated a cheese factory for some years. He was a member of the A. O. U. W. and a charter member of the Northfield Baptist Church and was deacon until the time of his death, in August, 1886, thus giving him the title of Deacon Whittier by which for many years he was well known. To Charles F. and Margaret (Wilmarth) Whittier were born two children, Eugenie E., married to Charles Stevens, of Hamline, Minn., and Herbert A., of Northfield. After the death of the mother of these children, Mr. Whittier married Theresa Cutler, of Northfield, Minn., by whom he had two children, Blanche and Willis, both of whom died of diphtheria.

**Robert C. Wilkins**, pioneer, was born near Brighton, Eng., December 13, 1827, and about a year later was brought to America by his parents who settled near Rochester, N. Y. Here Robert C. was reared, receiving a common education. Later he learned the blacksmith trade, and in 1849 opened a shop of his own at Bushnell's Basin, on the Canal. After four years he sold this shop, and worked in Rochester, N. Y., until 1855 when he came to Minnesota, landing in what is now Minneapolis, August 11. Shortly afterward he opened a blacksmith shop, this being the third shop opened in Minneapolis. It was located on the rear end of the lot on the corner of Washington and Third avenue, South. After another year he opened a shop on the corner of Second street and First avenue, North, where he stayed about ten years. In 1869 he purchased a farm in Waseca county, Minnesota, remaining there until 1882 when he sold his

farm and came to Northfield, Minn., and retired from active agricultural operations. Mr. Wilkins has never sought public office, but has at times consented to serve on the school board. In 1849, Mr. Wilkins was married to Mary J. Tew, born in Mendon, near Rochester, N. Y., in 1826. To this union were born seven children, three of whom lived to maturity. Ernest C. Wilkins, lives in Sumner, Wash.; Mary Elizabeth, who died in Northfield and Eliza Estelle, married to John H. Corliss, M. D., of Sumner, Wash. Mary J. Tew Wilkins died in August, 1883, and Mr. Wilkins later married Louisa Feidheim, born near Elgin, Ill.

Charles and Susan (Holden) Wilkins were the parents of Robert C. Wilkins, the father being of Scotch birth and the mother of Welsh descent. Of their seven children, four married and raised a family of children. Mrs. David Wood, of Kalamazoo, Mrs. Harvey Dean, who lived in the neighborhood of Portage, Wis., and Frederick who lived in the same vicinity are dead, Robert C., the only one surviving being the subject of this sketch. Charles Wilkins brought his family from England to America in 1828 stopping near Rochester, N. Y., where he settled on a farm. There they lived until the mother died when Charles (the father) came to live with his son Frederick until his death.

The parents of Mrs. Robert C. Wilkins, nee Louisa Feidheim, were both natives of Germany, the father born in Hanover and the mother in Munich. They were married in New York and came to Cannon City, Rice county, in 1855, and opened a hotel. The father also dealt in cattle, and sold meat throughout the county, visiting Northfield once each week, to supply his customers. In 1861 he moved to Northfield and opened a meat market to which he later added a grocery store. He continued in business many years. He and his wife are now both dead. They were the parents of seven children: Moses Feidheim, of Minneapolis; Caroline Feidheim, of Northfield; Louisa now Mrs. Robert Wilkins; Louisa, now Mrs. Edward Chase, of Minneapolis; Lewis, of Minneapolis; Joseph, of Chicago; Rosa married to James Butler, of Minneapolis.

**James B. Wickham**, a pioneer resident of Faribault, Minn., was born in Orange county, New York, June 4, 1844, coming with his parents at the age of six years to Bradford county, Pennsylvania, where he passed his boyhood and received his education in the district schools. He responded to the call of arms early in the war of the Rebellion, enlisting in Company F, Fifth New York Cavalry, at Lyle, serving under the famous General Custer till the disbandment of his regiment in 1865, at Winchester, W. Va., then returned to his home in Bradford

county, where he remained about a year, emigrating west in June, 1866, and locating at Faribault, Minn., engaging in the engineering business which has claimed his attention ever since. He accepted the position of chief engineer at St. Mary's Hall, October 1, 1883, and has creditably filled the same ever since. Mr. Wickham is a Republican in politics, and is interested in everything pertaining to the welfare of his city. He is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America, and is a prominent member of the Grand Army of the Republic. As to religious belief, he holds to the tenets of the Episcopal Church. November 21, 1867, he was united in marriage with Emma Cooper who died in 1877, leaving one boy, Charles B., of Portland, Ore. He was married a second time, February 4, 1880, taking as his bride, Annie Atkinson, by whom he has three children: Fred, of Minot, N. D., who is an engineer on the Great Northern Railway; James H. and George, who are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Wickham have their residence at Second street and Sixth avenue East.

**Albert A. Winkley**, a native of Warsaw township, Rice county, Minnesota, was born June 27, 1857. He received his education in the district schools, afterwards engaging in farming until twenty-eight years of age. He was one of the oldest children in a large family and it was necessary for him to work, and take some of the responsibilities of caring for the younger children at an early age. At the age of eleven years he was so unfortunate as to have his left leg taken off in a mowing machine while assisting his father in the field. In those days there were no artificial limbs manufactured that a person could wear with any comfort. Getting along the best he could until he reached the age of twenty-eight years, when he made and patented an artificial limb and opened a small shop in Faribault, Minn. His artificial limb proved a success and eleven years later he moved to Minneapolis, where he opened and established a large shop which was incorporated in his name and is still operated as the "Winkley Artificial Limb Company." In 1891 he sold his interest in the above firm and became traveling representative for E. H. Erickson Artificial Limb Company, remaining with these people but a short time.

Mr. Winkley is known in every state in the Union, and he receives letters daily from unfortunates who have lost their limbs and seeking advice and information regarding the right kind of limb to purchase. He is always glad to help anyone who is so unfortunate as to lose their limbs to secure the very best. Mr. Winkley patented what is known as a slip socket leg, and the Winkley slip socket has brought relief to people all over the world to-day. Mr. Winkley returned to Faribault in



1891 and later purchased the livery business of J. J. Clark which he has conducted since with great success; in 1907 he erected a commodious and up-to-date barn 140 feet by 72 in dimensions having stable room for fifty horses which he keeps constantly in use. In 1909 he purchased the Taylor bus line which he now operates in connection with the livery, his buses meet every passenger train that arrives in Faribault daily. In politics the Republican party counts him a loyal member.

He is also identified with the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks, Knights of Pythias, American Order of United Workmen and the Order of Eagles. December, 1885, he was united in marriage with Ellen G. Farnham, of Meredith, N. H. They have eight children, Albert F., born December 16, 1886, who now resides in La Grande, Ore.; John A., born February 10, 1887, in business with his father; Mary A., born February 9, 1889; Martha E., who was born August 21, 1892; Herbert Q., born October 4, 1895; Joseph W., born July 13, 1897; Charles A., born June 13, 1899; May G., born December 4, 1902. The family residence is located on the corner of Central avenue and First street South. They attend the Congregational Church.

**Nicholas O. Winans**, retired business man and farmer, now residing at 804 Seventh street, in Faribault, was born in Elmira, N. Y., August 30, 1830, son of Nicholas and Frances (Cook) Winans, natives respectively of New England and Pennsylvania. The father, who spent the greater part of his life as a farmer in New York state died in 1855 and the mother passed away in Minnesota in 1878. Nicholas received his education in the public schools, and after leaving school followed farming until fourteen years of age, when, in 1844, he moved to Aurora, Ill., with his mother. He clerked in a store for a number of years, and in 1854 engaged in the hardware business in the same city, remaining until 1857. That year he came to Faribault and engaged in the meat business. In 1861 he purchased a farm in Wells township, consisting of 100 acres in section 26. There he built himself a home and erected other necessary buildings, successfully carrying on general farming until 1904. Then he came to Faribault, purchased his present home, and has since resided here. He is a Republican in politics and is much interested in the issues of the day although he has never sought or held public office. Mr. Winans was married October 12, 1857, at Aurora, Ill., to Martha Kendall, daughter of John and Sarah (Hapgood) Kendall, who came to America July 16, 1838, and located in Aurora, Ill. Mr. Kendall died in 1854 and his wife in 1887. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Winans. Clark was born December 20, 1873. Richard A. was born August 13, 1875,

and died May 1, 1888. John R. was born May 18, 1878, married Jennie McIntire, and now lives in Presho, S. D. The family faith is that of the Methodist Church.

**Frank Henry Wilkowske** was born in Morristown township, Rice county, Minnesota, in 1872, and is the third of a family of seven children born to Rudolph and Ida (Koplieske) Wilkowske, who were married in the spring of 1869 at Waterville, Minn. The mother died in the spring of 1898. Their children, other than our subject were Albert, a farmer by occupation, Augusta, who is married to Edward Kiser, Conrad, a practicing physician, Otto, a farmer, Minnie, who is married to Rudolph Kanne and Wilhelm, who lives on the family homestead. The father, who was a native of Province of Posen, Germany, was born February 9, 1842, to Daniel and Justine (Krueger) Wilkowske. He was the third child of a family of seven children, whom his widowed mother brought to this country, in the spring of 1855, settling at Green Bay, Wis., where they bought a quarter section of land at fifty cents per acre. In the spring of 1863 the family came to Rice county, Minnesota, and settled on the tract of land in section thirty-six, Morristown township which became the family homestead. Rudolph first bought eighty acres of school land for five dollars per acre and afterwards bought a quarter section for fifteen dollars per acre. His first house was built of rough logs and was a rude cabin twelve by eighteen feet in dimensions, but served as a home till 1868. He broke the land with ox teams and with these hauled the produce, at first to Hastings and later to Faribault, the main trading post. But with dauntless courage he met and overcame these difficulties and privations incident to settling in a new country and lives to enjoy the fruits of his labors surrounded by hosts of friends and honored and respected by all who know him. He served in local offices, being pathmaster, school treasurer, etc., and in the German Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he has many years been a loyal member, he has held the various offices of clerk, steward, treasurer and class leader. He now resides at Faribault whither he moved in the fall of 1903. He married his present wife, who was formerly Margaret Eichhom at Vincent, Iowa.

Frank H. our subject, grew to manhood on his father's farm and after leaving the district schools attended school at Waterville, supplementing this with a course of study at a business college in St. Paul Park where he was graduated in 1894. Mr. Wilkowske began his business career in 1894, engaging in the hardware trade on his own account. In 1896 the business was carried on under the firm name of Wilkowske Brothers and so continued till 1899, when the firm name changed to Wilkowske and Wolf, which lasted seven years. Since 1906

he has been in business alone. Mr. Wilkowske has filled numerous local offices. He served as village recorder in 1895 and by re-election in 1896 and was again elected in March, 1900. April 1, 1902, he was elected president of the council and from April 4, 1905, to March 2, 1909, served as recorder. He was elected school treasurer July 30, 1900, re-elected in 1903 and again elected in 1909 for a third three years term. In 1906 he was a candidate for County Treasurer and again in 1908 on the Republican ticket.

In 1896 Mr. Wilkowske married Meta Wolf and they have two bright children, viz: Everet, born July 19, 1900, and Dela, who was born March 2, 1903. Mr. Wilkowske was appointed to serve the unexpired term, as county commissioner, caused by the resignation of John Finley who moved away. He is also clerk of the local Camp of the Modern Woodmen of America.

**E. J. Wolf** was born in Wheeling township, Rice county, May 1, 1865, to John B. and Katherine (Filpert) Wolf. John B. Wolf left the fatherland with his parents and emigrated to America in 1841 and located in Wheeling, Ill., where they remained until 1855. At that time they came to Wheeling township, Rice county, Minnesota, where John B's. father lived only a few years, being killed by the falling of a tree. Then John B. and his mother continued to work the farm. In 1893 the mother passed away, but John B. continued to farm at the same place until 1891 when he retired from active life and moved to Fari-bault where he and his wife now reside. Our subject was educated in the district schools of Wheeling township. After leaving school he returned to the old homestead where he now carries on general and diversified farming. He was married in 1891 to Emma, daughter of C. and Carolina Schmidt, natives of Germany. Mr. Schmidt was a shoemaker by trade, and came to America in 1855 locating in Chicago where he worked for some time; later he worked in St. Paul and came to Nerstrand in 1876, where he conducted a shoe store until his death, which occurred in 1899. Mrs. Schmidt lives in California. The home of our subject was blessed with five children, three of whom are living, viz: Sadie, Francis and Dewey. Mr. Wolf favors the Republican party. In religious faith he belongs to the German Evangelical Church. He is a stockholder in the Farmers' State Bank at Nerstrand.

**George Snow Weston** was born in Burnett, Wis., June 19, 1869. He is the son of Charles and Jane (Dock) Weston, who were natives of Canada. Mr. Weston's occupation was that of a farmer. He came to the States in 1845, locating in Wisconsin, and buying 320 acres of land where he carried on general farming up to the spring of 1889 when he brought his family to Min-

nesota, and located in the town of Walcott, Rice county where he bought 340 acres of land and carried on general farming until 1894. He died on the old homestead, May 17, 1908. Mrs. Weston is still living at the old home. Mr. Weston was educated in the district schools of Burnett and attended Shattuck school for two years, then took an academic course at Coaticotte, Canada. In the spring of 1889 he returned to the farm where he with his father carried on a dairy business, later making a specialty of raising Durham cattle and Chester white hogs. Their farm is known as the Maplewood Stock farm, and Mr. Weston still carries on the same line of business on the old homestead. On May 17, 1892, he was married to Agnes Butterfield, a daughter of B. B. and Mary (Spafford) Butterfield, natives of Canada. Mr. Butterfield was a farmer and followed it in Canada until his death. Mrs. Butterfield died at Cedar Falls, Iowa, in December, 1886. Mr. Weston is a Republican, and his religious affiliations are with the Episcopal Church, he is a member of the A. O. U. W., the Royal Arcanum, and the Knights of Pythias, he is a stockholder and director of the Farmers Elevator Company and treasurer of the Faribault Canning Company.

**Eugene B. Wemple** was born in Florida, Montgomery county, New York, July 12, 1845, son of David D. and Christiana (Schuyler) Wemple, natives of New York. Mr. Wemple followed the trade of a wagon and carriage maker until the year 1848 when he moved his family west to Wisconsin, locating on a farm of 90 acres near Oshkosh, where he lived until 1855. In 1856 he sold his farm and moved to Minnesota, locating in Walcott township, section 13, where he bought 160 acres, doing general farming until the time of his death January 22, 1885. Mrs. Wemple died January 11, 1885. Eugene Wemple was educated in the district schools of Wisconsin and Minnesota, and also attended Hamline university, when that school was located at Red Wing, Minn. After leaving school he returned to the farm where he worked with his father until 1880, then he bought the farm from his father. He has lived there ever since, and has acquired an additional 40 acres. On April 12, 1876, he married Minnie Thompson, a daughter of Samuel and Lucy (Biglow) Thompson who were natives of the State of New York. Mr. Thompson was a doctor of medicine and came west locating near Winona, Minn. where he bought a farm on which he lived and practiced his profession up to the time of his death. Mrs. Thompson died in 1894. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Wemple: Henrietta M. Lewis, whose husband is a farmer living near Kerkhoven, Minn., Edith Belle Peterson, whose husband is a farmer living near Kerkhoven, Minn. Eugene B., Jr. who is by occupation a gas fitter and plumber and who travels a portion of the



time, Ethel L., a teacher, and Roy E. lives on the farm. Mrs Wemple died April 3, 1896. On March 28, 1904, Mr. Wemple married his second wife, Cora B. Kellogg, daughter of A. J. and Marilla C. (Barnett) Kellogg. The father was a native of Franklin, Delaware county, New York, and the mother lived in Iowa. Mr. Kellogg was by trade a wagon maker. He came west to Minnesota in 1854 locating at Faribault, where he worked at his trade until 1880 when he retired from active work. He died in Faribault in 1903. Mrs. Kellogg died April 14, 1879. Mr. Wemple has no children by his second wife. He is a Republican and has served on the board of supervisors for two years, and as a director on the school board since the year 1900. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company, The Richland creamery, and in the Co-operative store. He is a member of the M. E. Church. Mr. Wemple is one of a family of nine children, William J. for many years in the feed business at Logansport, Ind., now retired from active business; Anna M., married to Frank Ridgeway, who is in the mercantile business at Jackson, Minn.; Sarah J. Matthews, a widow, now living at Faribault; Eugene B.; Henrietta R. Benham, whose husband is a prominent real estate man in Minneapolis; George W. in the patent right business at Boston; David D. died March 11, 1909, and whose widow and son live at Fergus Falls, Minn.; Daniel S. owner of 1,860 acres of farm land near Fergus Falls, now retired and lives with his family at Fergus Falls; Gertrude Cronkhite, whose husband is a farmer at Maple Lake, Minn.

**Alfred K. Ware**, a prominent citizen of Northfield, is known throughout the United States as the owner of the Alcantara farm, which has produced some of the finest horses in America. In 1903 he was elected mayor of the city and served with credit for two years. In 1904 he was elected to the legislature, and so excellent was the record which he made in that body, the people of his district honored him with the same position again in 1908. He is now serving and has established for himself an enviable reputation in the minds of his fellow citizens. Alfred K. Ware was born in Waterloo, Iowa, August 23, 1863, and received his early education in the public schools of Minneapolis, and a high school at Evanston, Ill. After graduating from the latter institution, he entered into the real estate and loan business at Lake Benton, Minn., remaining two years. Then he went to Elmwood, Ill., and conducted a stock farm three years. From 1897 to 1899 he raised stock in Virginia, and in the latter year came to Rice county. Here he purchased the electric light plant at Northfield, and built a slightly brick theater. He also bought eighty acres of land, which he has converted into a famous stock farm. Mr. Ware was married, March 30, 1887, to

Harriet Fletcher, born in Winona, Minn. To this union, eight children have been born, five boys and three girls. They are: Cecil G., Mildred R., Ralph F., Fletcher K., Marjorie H., Roger (deceased), Alexander E., John T. and Alireda L. Mr. Ware is a Republican in politics, and belongs to the Masonic order, the Modern Woodmen and the Modern Samaritans. Edward K. and Mary E. (Maxwell) Ware, parents of Alfred K. Ware, were natives respectively of Illinois and Massachusetts. They located in Iowa in the early days, and moved to Minneapolis in 1876. Both are now deceased.

**The Alcantara Farm**, in Northfield, is the breeding place of high grade trotting horses. In 1899, Alfred K. Ware, the proprietor, purchased the world-famed Alcantara, a horse that ranked fifth in the world as a sire of trotting and pacing horses, having at the time of his purchase by Mr. Ware a list of over 135 which was increased to over 160 before his death. Mr. Ware has owned the following horses: Betherton, Sidmont (2.10½); Barolite (2.17¼); Homeward, Aldatara Wilkesoneer (2.30); Red Star (2.12¼); Senator La Follette (2.23½); Royal Outline (2.23½); Major Silver; Lexantara; Ashon (2.12½). A great many fast colts have been produced in Minnesota. Among them might be mentioned: Iseneta (2.05½); Happy Hooligan 2.12; Lady Outline (2.17¼); Ollie K. (2.12¼); Mollie Barolite (2.18¼); Browie Mae (2.24½); Bessie Barolite (2.22¼); Lucy A. (2.19½); Red Sid (2.24½), and several others that are fast but have not made records. It will be seen from this list that Mr. Ware stands at the head of all in this section for improving the speed qualities of horses.

**Lambert Watts**, a retired farmer of Rice county, now living in Northfield, was born in Pacham, Caledonia county, Vermont, December 2, 1820, son of Thomas and Jane (Bailey) Watts, natives respectively of New Hampshire and Newbury, Vt. He received his education in the common schools of Vermont, and early turned his attention to farming. He came to Rice county in March, 1858, and bought a quarter section of land in Northfield, where he lived about five years, afterward purchasing 320 acres in section 14, which he still owns. At the beginning of his career in this county, Mr. Watts acquired a Morgan mare, and raised some fine horses of that strain. During his residence here, Mr. Watts has never sought public office, preferring rather to give all his energy, time and attention to his farming. Trouble with his hearing prevented his enlistment in the Civil war. Mr. Watts has taken a deep interest in the development of township and county. The first school in his vicinity, when he first came to Minnesota, was held in his granary, which he gave free of rent. He also donated time and money to various pub-

lic improvements. Mr. Watts has been a life-long Republican. In 1888 he retired from farming and moved to Northfield, where he still resides. He was married in Pacham, Vt., March 29, 1842, to Martha Martin, born in Pacham, Vt., March 20, 1817, daughter of Eliphalet and Martha (Hoyt) Martin, both natives of Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Watts were blessed with five children. Thomas born November 14, 1843, served three years in Company C, Sixth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered out at the close of the war. Martha J. was born June 2, 1845, and died at Pacham, Vt., September 17, 1845. John M. was born October 28, 1847, and died October 13, 1902. Lizzie Ann was born November 22, 1851, and married Everett Spear, of Northfield. Martha J., named for her deceased sister, was born February 23, 1857.

William Zimmerman, a prosperous and enterprising merchant of Morristown, Minn., was born in Germany in 1878, and is one of a family of five children born to August and Wilhelmeina Zimmerman. They came from Germany in 1883 and settled in Rice county, Minnesota, with their then three children, Fred, now of Faribault, in the hotel business, our subject and Charles, working his father's farm, and was married to Mata Hagel, eight days before his mother passed away, also of Morristown—subsequently two more children were born, viz: Minnie, now married to Gustav Zielske, and Alma who is at home. The family are adherents of the German Lutheran Church. The mother, who was born August 15, 1863, to Frederick and Wilhelmeina Pieper, of Province Brandenburg, Germany, grew to womanhood and was educated in her native place. She was a woman of noble christian character greatly beloved by all who know her, and her death at Morristown, after a lingering illness, on January 22, 1909, was deeply mourned by many friends. William grew up on his father's farm, and attended the district schools until he was sixteen years old. He went to St. Paul in 1903 and entered Stone's school of watchmaking and engraving and learned the art of engraving and watchmaking and on being graduated returned to Morristown and soon afterward opened for business with about one hundred and fifty dollars worth of goods in L. J. Eisert's furniture store. Beginning thus in a modest way, he gave close attention to his business which gradually grew under his careful management necessitating an increase of stock each year. He continued in his first location till 1908, and then moved his place of business to the general store of Paul Burkart and conducted it there till February, 1909, when his present store building, twenty-six by thirty feet in dimensions and two stories in height was ready for occupancy. This building was formerly occupied by the Methodist Church and stood just south of the

town line. Mr. Zimmerman has his store well fitted up with jewelry safe and every appliance looking to safety and fine display and besides an elegant stock of jewelry, perfumery and notions, has a fine fountain. Mr. Zimmerman is a man of thrift and has dealt somewhat in real estate since settling in Morris-town with gratifying success.

**William Zabel** was born in the State of Illinois, April 30, 1858, son of Chas. and Minnie (Brandt) Zabel, both natives of Germany. By trade Chas. Zabel was a wagon maker. He came to America in 1849, and located in McHenry county, Illinois, where he worked at his trade until 1857. He then moved to Minnesota and located at Prairieville, Cannon City township, Rice county, working at his trade until 1866. He then bought one hundred and seventy acres of land in the above named township on which he carried on a general farming until 1899 when he sold his farm and moved to Faribault where he lived in retirement until his death in 1905. Mrs. Zabel died in 1902.

William Zabel was educated in the district schools of Canon City. After leaving school he rented a farm in the town of Walcott on which he did general farming up to 1904, when he bought 240 acres, doing a general and dairy farming, which he still continues. He was married October, 1884, to Mary C. Dwyer, a daughter of John Dwyer, of Ireland. Mr. Dwyer's occupation was that of a farmer. He came to America and located first in New York State, and afterward moved to Minnesota and located at Faribault, he worked out for several years and then bought a farm in the township of Walcott where he did general farming until his death. Nine children have blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Zabel. In politics Mr. Zabel is a Republican. He is a stockholder in the Prairieville Creamery, the Farmers' Co operative store at Faribault, and of the Farmers' Elevator Company of Faribault. He is a member of the Episcopal Church.

**Frank A. Berry**, of Faribault, was born in Borodino, Anondago county, New York, and in 1866 came west to Faribault. Since that date he has been closely identified with its life. Upon his arrival here he engaged in the wholesale lumber business with a partner, under the firm name of Smith & Berry. From 1870 until 1903 he followed agricultural pursuits, and held an interest in several local concerns. In 1903 he succeeded Hudson Wilson as president of the Citizens' National Bank, of Faribault, and continued in that capacity until the bank was sold in 1908. Since that date he has lived practically a retired life.

**Alson Blodgett**, of Faribault, was born in Genesee county, New York, May 3, 1830, and was married in New York city, coming to Faribault in January, 1856. Mr. Blodgett then returned east, and when he came back to Rice county, brought



with him a team of horses and a vehicle which he turned into land in Warsaw township, where he located on a farm, there remaining until 1875. He then sold the farm and came to the city of Faribault, where he entered into the sash, door and blind business, in connection with a lumber yard, under the firm name of Linner & Blodgett. Three years later this firm was sold out, and in 1881 Mr. Blodgett purchased the Smith Lumber Yard, which he developed into a large industry, incorporated in 1892, and known as the Wisconsin Lumber Company. Mr. Blodgett's three sons now being associated with him in the company. Mr. Blodgett is now president of this company. He is a Republican in politics, and at one time served as supervisor in the township of Warsaw.

**Alson Blodgett, Jr.**, secretary and treasurer of the Wisconsin Lumber Company, Faribault, was born in that city January 11, 1860, his parents being Alson Blodgett, Sr., and Mary (Cook) Blodgett. In 1880 he entered the lumber business with his father. The company was incorporated in 1892, and at that time the subject of this sketch became secretary and treasurer, a position he has since retained. Mr. Blodgett is a Republican in politics and has served as president of the Faribault school board for six years. He is also a director of the Security Bank of Faribault, and of the Faribault Commercial Club.

**Ernest A. Taylor.** July 6, 1861, in what was then the township of Merton, Steele county, Minnesota, there was born to H. W. Taylor and his wife, Lenora (Kendall) Taylor, a son, who was named Ernest Ansel. In January, 1865, he, with his sister Lula, who was two years his junior, was taken by his parents to Buckland, Mass., where the family lived with the paternal grandparents for a year.

The following spring the family removed to Faribault, and later, when school was opened in the new Central school building, the first day found E. A. Taylor a pupil in the lowest class in the lowest room. The summer he was sixteen found him completing his third year in the high school, and as the school authorities had not yet inaugurated a regular course and there was no such thing as graduation, he thought he had education enough, and having a fondness for mechanical work persuaded his parents to let him enter the blacksmith shop of the Frink & Stafford wagon factory as an apprentice. Four years later, having in the meantime learned his trade, a hunting trip to Hutchison, Minn., put him in the way of becoming interested in a small hardwood saw-mill. The venture was not a financial success, but it added to his knowledge the ability to run a steam engine and to do logging from cutting the trees to putting the logs on the rollway. Returning to Faribault he worked at his trade for Lindeman Bros., and later for Adan Weyer. In the fall he ran an engine for a

threshing outfit belonging to the Minnesota Chief Company. The next season he had charge of a whole outfit for the same company, starting all alone from Faribault with one of the first traction engines made. It was built over from an engine drawn by horses, and was speeded up to six miles an hour, making it very difficult for an inexperienced driver to steer. All went well till a narrow grade across a slough southwest of Medford was reached, when one front wheel slipped off and the axle was broken. A day sufficed for repairs. The trip was continued and a successful season's threshing was done between Owatonna and Waseca. Returning, bad luck overtook the outfit near the scene of the former mishap. The engine and tank broke through a bridge, Mr. Taylor saving himself from being crushed between the two by jumping.

The following spring—1884—he went to Windsor, Mo., where his mother's people lived, to run an engine in a creamery. The winter of that year, wishing for more education, he gave up his place, went to Sedalia, Mo., and entered the Robbins Business College, which was a good one for that time. After completing the course he returned to Minnesota and early in 1886, learning that both the Great Northern and the "Soo" roads were going to build through Paynesville, Minn., he went there with Fred Harper and another Faribault boy and opened a blacksmith and wagon repair shop. Business was good from the start. October 6, 1886, E. A. Taylor was united in marriage to Mary E. Tower, daughter of G. W. Tower, of Faribault. January 1, 1887, Mr. Taylor sold his interest in the shop to his partner and went into business with John W. Darby, who was postmaster at Paynesville and also had a drug and grocery store. A year later, Mr. Taylor finding the drug business more to his taste than anything he had yet tried, disposed of his interests in Paynesville and bought a two-thirds interest in an exclusive drug store in Maple Lake, Minn. Two years later a disastrous fire wiped out the business and the family residence, which was above the store. Both Mr. and Mrs. Taylor were sick with the "grip" at the time and little was saved. Mr. Taylor then went to Minneapolis and entered Prof. Drew's Pharmacy School. After completing the course he successfully passed the examination of the Minnesota State Board of Pharmacy. For a time he was employed in a drug store in Minneapolis, and then accepted a desirable place in a store on the hill in St. Paul. Here the close confinement and long hours gradually told on his health, and not wishing to give up the business, he accepted an offer to take charge of a new stock of drugs that was going in at Breckenridge, Minn. For a time the change was beneficial, but as the business grew the old troubles came back and finally, late in 1894, with his health completely

shattered, he was compelled to give up the work for all time. The family, which now included two daughters, Erna, born on her father's birthday, July 6, 1890, and Jean, born September 12, 1892, returned to Faribault. For a year and a half Mr. Taylor was unable to do any real work, then he regained sufficient health to do light outdoor work and drove 'bus for his father, gradually regaining lost ground till in 1902, when his brother Leslie, who had engaged in the lumbering business in Aitken county, Minnesota, died as the result of an accident, E. A. Taylor went there and took charge of the business. The region was a wild one at the time, the nearest available railroad point being Grand Rapids, Minn., thirty-five miles away by the wagon road. Early in the summer Mr. Taylor took his family up. At first they lived in a tent, but as soon as lumber had been sawed, buildings of rough boards covered with tar paper were put up for the camp and a house for the family was built in the same way. It took two years to saw the lumber—something over two million feet—from the tract of land they owned. Then in 1904 they moved back to Faribault. Mr. Taylor soon after opened the Electric Laundry, which he still runs. In local politics he does not follow party lines, and on national questions he usually votes the Republican ticket, but he approves of the present "insurgent" movement. He is a member of the M. W. A., the M. B. A., the Mystic Workers, the local Commercial Club and the Live Topic Club. The family usually attend the Congregational Church.

**Joseph M. St. George**, a native of Wells township, Rice county, was born April 2, 1866. He received his education in the Cedar Lake district school of Wells township, afterwards taking up general farming and threshing, which he followed for twenty-four years, succeeding his father in business. Mr. St. George was very successful in his farming operations, acquiring a farm in Rice county, which he developed to a high state of productiveness, and another in South Dakota, where he bought for speculation. In 1902 he engaged in quarrying all kinds of building and lime stone near Faribault, and shortly afterwards established a brick yard, now doing an extensive business in both lines. In politics he stands independent, always voting as he thinks best, regardless of party. April 11, 1887, at Faribault, Minn., he was united in marriage with Susan Chapdelaine, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Chapdelaine. They have three children, all living at home—Alfred, Lawrence and Elizabeth. The family reside at the corner of First street and Thirteenth street, East. The Catholic Church claims them as members. Mr. St. George is affiliated with the Catholic Order of Foresters. Joseph St. George and Mary (Jersoule) St. George, parents of our subject, were born in Canada and Belgium, respectively, the former in 1834 and the

latter in 1835. In 1855 they migrated to Wells township, Rice county, where they homesteaded a hundred and sixty acres, having the usual experiences of those pioneer days. They united in marriage in 1858. The father continued farming, running a threshing outfit in connection with his farm duties much of the time till 1890, when he removed to Walcott township, where he continued farming till 1899, then removed to North Dakota, taking a claim of a hundred and sixty acres and proving up on it. He still spends most of his time on this property. His wife died in Walcott township, May 3, 1899. Mr. and Mrs. Francis Chapdelaine, parents of our subject's wife, were united in marriage in July 1859. They engaged in farming in Wells township, Rice county, till 1893, then lived in the city of Faribault till their decease. Mr. Chapdelaine died at the age of eighty-one years. Mrs. Chapdelaine died at the age of sixty years.

**John Street** was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, September 10, 1856. He received his early education in the public schools, and when nineteen years old commenced teaching country schools and for several years alternated between teaching and attending school, holding the position as principal of the Sheffield, Iowa schools for three years, after which he engaged in the real estate and abstract business, working at this about five years, serving in the meantime as deputy register of deeds in Hampton, Franklin county, Iowa. He came to Minnesota in 1889, stopping at Springfield, Minn., where he was engaged in banking. In 1891 he went to Lamberton, Minn., and there, with others, organized the Citizens' State Bank, of which he was cashier, remaining in this position about ten years. In the meantime he served for some years as president of the Bank of Moose Lake, and vice president of the Citizens' Bank, of Maynard, Minn. In 1901 Mr. Street came to Northfield and engaged in the real estate and loaning business. In 1906 he entered into partnership with M. W. Skinner and the firm name has since been Skinner & Street. Mr. Street is a Republican in politics. He has been president of the Northfield Board of Education for the past six years. Mr. Street was married October 19, 1881, to Mary J. Winship, daughter of J. W. and Ruth (Aten) Winship, and born in Wisconsin January 19, 1861. To this union were born ten children—Claude W., Bernard, Arthur D. (deceased), Bayard T., Edith E., Ruth R., Florence E., Maynard J., Douglass and Theodore H. Aaron and Elizabeth (Clark) Street, parents of John Street, were natives of Ohio and Illinois, respectively. They located in Salem, Henry county, Iowa, among the first settlers, the father dying in 1871, and the mother in 1896. They had six children who grew to maturity: Mrs. Eunice S. King, of Muscatine, Iowa; Mrs. Mary S. Haines, of Hesper, N. D.; B. G. Street, of Hesper, Iowa; D. C. Street, of



Sturgeon Lake, Minn.; L. M. Street, of Minneapolis, Minn., and John Street, of Northfield, Minn., the subject of this sketch.

**Herbert C. Theopold** was born in Faribault in July, 1868. He attended the public schools of Faribault and graduated from the Shattuck school in 1886. In 1888 he associated himself with his father, F. A. Theopold, in the wholesale grocery business. In 1905 the business was incorporated under the name of Theopold-Reid Company, with Henry C. as president.

**George R. Miller**, farmer of Rice county, was born in Richland township, December 20, 1866, to J. G. and Susan (Putman) Miller. The father, a native of Germany, was a shoemaker by trade. The mother is a native of New York state. J. G. Miller came to America in 1845 and located in New York city, where he worked at his trade for one month, after which he moved to Genesee county, where he followed his trade for two months. In 1850 he moved west to Wisconsin, locating in Rock county, where he worked on a farm for some time. In 1851 he bought a farm in Fayette county, Iowa, where he remained until 1856. He then came to Minnesota, located in Walcott township, Rice county, where he worked at his trade. In 1858 he traded his farm in Iowa for land in Richland township, where he has done general farming up to the present time. Nine children blessed the home in this family. Five are still living: S. E. Miller is engaged in the grocery business in Minneapolis; Mrs. Lucy Perry, who lives in Walcott township; Mrs. Rebecca Zanher, who lives in North Dakota, and Emma Miller, who is still at home and has successfully engaged in the poultry and egg business. The subject of this sketch was educated in the district school in Richland township. After leaving school he worked on his father's farm, where he still lives. Mr. Miller is a Prohibitionist in politics, and he belongs to the Methodist Church. He has served as a member of the board of directors in the school district for six years, beginning in 1900. He has also served as road overseer for several terms. He is a stockholder in the Farmers' Co-operative Store at Faribault.

**Charles H. Hatfield**, son of Robert and Nancy Hatfield, was born in Wells county, Indiana, November 2, 1850. His parents, in 1860, removed to Forest township, Rice county, Minnesota, and here he completed his education in the district schools, afterwards engaging in farming on a farm in Forest township. He also acquired land in Eureka township, Dakota county, and spent two years in South Dakota, occupied in farming, afterwards returning to Forest township, where he continued to follow general farming with much success for the next eight years. He then took a trip into North Dakota, where he invested in land in Burleigh county, which he still owns. Mr. Hat-

field then moved to Faribault—1903—and entered the business of buying and shipping veal and poultry, which still claims his attention. The Farmers' Elevator Company, of Faribault, numbers him among its stockholders. In politics he is a staunch supporter of the Republican party, and has ably served on the town board and school committee of Forest, and was treasurer of the school board for a time. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church of Forest and afterwards of Dundas, but after making his permanent home in Faribault he united with the Congregational Church. May 27, 1886, he was married to Kate Owings, who died two years later, leaving one daughter, Ruth, who is married to E. L. Femder, of Idaho. Mr. Hatfield was married a second time, November 19, 1897, at Faribault, to Sarah Brown, daughter of James and Sarah (Ford) Brown, of Faribault. Mr. and Mrs. Brown were natives of Scotland, emigrating to Canada in the early seventies, removing to Faribault in the spring of 1872, where he purchased a home on Fourth street, which he continued to own and occupy until his death, March 27, 1908, his wife following him just five days later. The Hatfield residence is at 821 Fourth street, West.

**William H. Dean** is an enterprising citizen of Morristown, Minn. He was born June 1, 1854, and is the eldest of a family of ten children born to George W. and Martha Jane (Walker) Dean. The other children, named in the order of their births, are James M.; Sarah Jane, who is married to J. D. Hammett; Mary, the wife of P. A. Young; Nettie Louise, who is married to Hans Larson; George W.; Nellie, the wife of J. C. McKenzie; Mattie S., married to Lewis Larson; Minnie, who is married to James Kisor, and Edith, now the wife of Otto Cromwell. The father was born November 15, 1831, in Brown county, Ohio, and is a son of Ninkemiah and Melinda (Jones) Dean, who were pioneer settlers of Tipton county, Indiana, whither they moved with an ox team, thirty-five miles north of the present site of Indianapolis, when our subject's father was eight years old. In the fall of 1845 our subject's father, with his wife and infant child (our subject) left his home in Indiana and after a six weeks' journey with an ox team, reached Grant county, Wisconsin, and the following year removed to Waseca county, which was then a part of Rice county, Minnesota. Here he pre-empted and proved up a claim. Five years later he traded this land for the eighty-acre tract in section fifteen, Morristown township, Rice county, Minnesota, which became the family homestead. Four of his children were born in the rude log house which he first erected here. Those were strenuous times and there were many hardships and privations to be endured. High prices for everything that settlers had to buy was the rule. Mr. Dean paid \$2.50 for the first

bushel of wheat he bought, while his first sale of wheat brought him only 45 cents per bushel. Twenty two dollars in gold was the price he paid for one hundred pounds of pork, and in 1856 he counted himself fortunate to get a bushel of potatoes for two and a half days' work. Faribault then had four log cabins, and it took three days to make the trip to Hastings, the nearest trading point, and return, with an ox team. Mr. Dean hauled from the old saw mill in Morristown the lumber for the Eagle Hotel in Faribault. But Mr. Dean was a resolute and true pioneer and met and overcame these early trials and lives to enjoy the well earned fruits of his labors, at the old family homestead. Our subject was reared on his father's farm and got his education in the district schools. He was eight years old at the time of the Indian uprising in 1862, and has a vivid recollection of the perils and dangers that threatened as he in company with other refugees fled from their homes to safety in Morristown. After finishing his schooling he turned his attention to farming. He bought his first piece of land, six acres, in 1877, to which he added twelve acres, and then forty acres, and so continued to add to his holdings from time to time until he acquired his present fine farm in section sixteen, Morristown township, Rice county, comprising 172½ acres, well improved. This farm is now—1910—leased to his son-in-law, Samuel J. Downhour. Mr. Dean has served as a member of the town board some nine years, and for four years was its chairman, and has also served on the school board in district 89. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, and both he and his wife are members of the Baptist Church in Morristown. In the fall of 1905 he moved into the village, and since September 1, 1905, has been in the employ of the government as a mail carrier on rural free delivery route No. 2. Mr. Dean owns lots 4, 5 and 6, in block 3, village of Morristown, and a fine house and barns thereon. He also owns stock in the Morristown State Bank. In 1878 Mr. Dean married Rosa Orpha Henry, of Morristown. Nine children were born to them. Stella E. is married to Samuel J. Downhour and has six children, Harry, Elmer, Dorothy, Lawrence, Pearl and Forest. John, the second child, married Pearl Hoban and has one child, named Iown. Walter, the third, married Lula Mack, in March, 1905. She died in October, 1907. Mabel May, the fourth child, married Hans A. Olson, of Culver, Minn., and has two children, Ruth Irene and Viola May. The fifth child, Onie Bell, is the wife of Cecil W. Temple and has two children, Earl and Marlin. The other children, Hattie Esther, Eathel Maud, Herbert Edward and William Earl are single and live at home.

**Angus Grant**, a well known citizen of Faribault, was born at Wolf Island, Ontario, Canada, May 26, 1862, there received his







HIRAM A. SCRIVEN

education and came to Walker township, Rice county, with his mother. He engaged for a time in farming. Then he took up railroad contracting with his brother, and still continues in that business. Mr. Grant is a Republican in politics, but has never aspired to public office, though at one time he consented to serve as street commissioner. For a period of years in the '90s he engaged in the coal business in Faribault. He is a member of the Masonic order, and belongs to the United Workmen and the Modern Woodmen. Mr. Grant was married August 31, 1879, at the bride's home in Walcott township, to Anna B. Mills, daughter of John N. and Maria (Biteley) Mills, natives of New York state, who came to Minnesota and located in Faribault in the early days. Mr. Mills was an attorney. He and his wife are now deceased. Mrs. Grant attended the Faribault high school and spent some time at St. Mary's in Faribault. Her ancestors were among the Hollanders who settled in New York in the colonial days, several having fought in the revolution.

Mr. and Mrs. Grant have been blessed with five children: Rose M., born June 7, 1880; married Walter G. Smith, of Faribault. Donald was born August 20, 1882, and married Grace Armour, of Union City, Okla. He left school at the age of sixteen years and took up railroad work with his father. He now has a complete outfit and has made advancements that are remarkable for a man of his age. Goldie M., born March 6, 1888, has graduated in domestic science in the Thomas training school, Detroit, Mich. Angus, Jr., popularly known as "Buster" Grant, is a great favorite in Faribault, especially among the young people. He was born August 25, 1889, and graduated from the Faribault high school with highest honors. He was captain of the basketball and football teams, and led his men to victory, receiving championship honors several times. He also won several medals for athletic proficiency. The youngest child is Mary, born February 29, 1896. The family home is at 521 West Second street.

**Hon Hiram A. Scriver**, of Northfield, was born in Hemmingford in the province of Quebec, on the 22d of April, 1830. He secured a good common school education and spent some time at the high school in Potsdam, N. Y. He was engaged in mercantile pursuits from the ending of his school days. In 1856 he came to Northfield, and on the 12th of June in that year he purchased the general merchandise store of Coultson Bros., who had started a few months before, where the Scriver block now stands, and at once became one of the leading and influential citizens of the new community. He was an early member of the board of supervisors, of which he was chairman, and has held other town and county offices. He was also a member of the school board. When Northfield became a city Mr. Scriver was

its first mayor, and he was a member of the legislature in 1877 and 1879. He took a great interest in educational matters and gave liberally to the support of Carleton college, of which he was a trustee from its organization. He was a director of the First National Bank of Northfield from 1878 to the day of his death in 1890. Mr. Scriver was a member of the Congregational Church, a regular attendant and a liberal contributor to its charities. Mr. Scriver was twice married. In 1860 he married Clara E. Olin, and they had one child, which died when two years old. His wife was killed in a runaway some years ago, and in August, 1886, he was married a second time, to Delia M. Vanderbilt, of Geneseo, N. Y., who survives him. He died from paralysis June 1, 1890. He was a man of upright character; his business reputation was of the best, and in his daily walk and conversation he proved himself a conscientious, kindly Christian gentleman. His life and character were largely influential in determining the high standard maintained in Northfield from the beginning to the present time.

**Hon. George W. Batchelder.** A true pioneer must needs be a man of varied abilities and well controlled mind. He must be able to do hard work himself as well as to direct his fellow men; to endure hardship with fortitude and success with modesty; to follow the right when wrong would seemingly prove more profitable; to rebuke dishonor, even when such rebuke brings disfavor from high places. Such a man was the late George W. Batchelder, whose biography, fully written, would almost embody the whole history of Rice county, so closely were his activities interwoven with its progress. At the time of his death—January 9, 1910—the press of the state and nation voiced their eulogies and such phrases as "Faribault's most prominent and oldest citizen," "His life an example of integrity and honor," "Sad death causes universal sorrow," "Widely known public man," were frequent. One paper said: "No man in the city or county, and few in the state of Minnesota, were better known than George W. Batchelder. A residence of fifty-four years, extending back beyond Minnesota's statehood, back into frontier life, back to a period when Faribault was a little village, when its chief commercial city was little more than a field of drifting sand, when Indians roamed at will all over the state, together with an active, influential life, made him well known, while his love of justice, and his honorable manhood made his acquaintance desirable. Few, very few, men are permitted so long a life of activity—and fewer still are permitted to couple with that activity so much that stand for true manhood and worth. It is little wonder that he was widely and favorably known. Active in his practice as a lawyer, active in business affairs, always a staunch friend of his chosen

city and state, kindly in his friendships, charitable to those in need, always building up, never tearing down, it is not strange that Faribault should long mourn, or that its sorrow should extend far beyond its borders. In his earlier years Mr. Batchelder mingled freely in a social way with his neighbors and friends, he was of a genial disposition and his home was one of the centers of Faribault social life. He was a scholar and student and devoted to music, while his strong and varied mental endowments made him a charming associate always. He was not a politician, in the common acceptance of the term, but was an active Democrat all his life. When official life came to him, he discharged its duties with studious care and fidelity. He believed in the people, and their rights of citizenship within the law. He feared the aggression of organized wealth; feared the coming of that condition that now confronts the nation and used his influence to check it."

George Washington Batchelder was born in Danville, Caledonia county, Vermont, February 18, 1825, his parents having been John Batchelder and Alice Kittridge Batchelder. His ancestry is traced to Rev. Stephen Batchelder, who was a dissenting minister, and who emigrated from Surrey, England, in 1732, and settled in Lynn, Mass. George W. lived on his father's farm till he was twenty years of age, attending the public schools and fitted for college at Phillips Academy, in Danville. He entered the University of Vermont in 1847 and graduated in 1851. Immediately after graduating he was employed to take charge of the high school at Windsor, Vt., where he taught one year—1851-52—and then went to Tennessee, where he taught a year in Tazewell Academy and a year in McMinn Academy, Rogersville, East Tennessee. During this time he studied law, first with Hon. Warren Currier, of Windsor, Vt., and closed with Hon. Frank H. Walker, of Rogersville. Returning to Vermont, he soon after left for Janesville, Wis., where he was admitted to the Rock county bar, which at that time embraced many able and distinguished lawyers. Realizing that the professional field was well filled, Mr. Batchelder in 1855 came to Faribault, in company with the late Judge John M. Berry. At the time of Mr. Batchelder's arrival Faribault was only a trading post of Alexander Faribault with the Sioux Indians, and contained but few white people. Mr. Batchelder took an active part in the work of organizing the county, dividing it into townships and school districts, laying out highways and making Faribault the county seat. He was a member of the state senate in 1872-73 and procured the passage of the act giving to Faribault a city charter. He was mayor of the city in 1880 and 1881, president of the city board of education from 1881 to 1893. He was politically a



Democrat but moderate in his views. He was the Democratic candidate for congress in the First district in 1868 against Hon. Morton S. Wilkinson, and in 1888 was the Democratic candidate for associate justice of the Supreme Court, but was defeated, his party being in a minority in the state. He has for upwards of twenty years been president of the Rice County Bar Association, and up to the time of his last illness had attended every session of the district court that had been held in Rice county and many sessions of outside courts. He was admitted to practice in the United States Supreme Court at the December term, 1884.

He at first formed a partnership with Hon. John M. Berry, late justice of the Supreme Court of Minnesota, the firm having been Berry & Batchelder, and next with Hon. Thomas S. Buckingham, now judge of the District Court of the Fifth Judicial District, which endured for twenty-three years under the firm name of Batchelder and Buckham. For the last nineteen years he had been in partnership with his son, Charles S., under the name of Batchelder & Batchelder. Mr. Batchelder was counsel for the proprietors of the town site of Faribault against contesting claimants, tried before the United States Land Office at Winona and appealed to the United States General Land Office at Washington, D. C., in which the proprietors were successful. He was also counsel for the noted Younger brothers, indicted for murder. He has been employed in a large share of the litigation in his own county and other courts.

He was a regular attendant upon the Congregational Church, though not a member, and was a liberal contributor to its support and for the aid of other churches. He was a Mason of the blue lodge. Mr. Batchelder was married, July 12, 1853, to Kate E. Davis, of Fond du Lac, Wis., but a native of Delaware county, New York, who survives him, with three children, viz.: Georgia Louise, Charles S. and John Davis Batchelder. The latter is professor of modern languages in the Case School of Applied ton, Me., September 26, 1843, where he received his early education. He came west in 1857, with his parents, Jonathan and Science, Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio.

**John Clifford**, of Northfield, now deceased, was born in Stock-Susan B. (French) Clifford, who located in Stanton township, Goodhue county, Minnesota, where they engaged in farming. John attended the public schools and remained at home until in 1862, when he enlisted in Company F, Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served three years, being mustered out at Charlotte in North Carolina, July 11, 1865. The regiment was finally disbanded August 1, 1865, at Fort Snelling, Minn., after which Mr. Clifford returned to his home. December 7, 1867, he was married to Jemima Masson, who was born in Roslin, Hast-



JOHN CLIFFORD



ings county, Ontario, Canada, May 20, 1849, daughter of Alexander H. and Mary (Armstrong) Masson. Alexander H. Masson was born in Nairn, Scotland, and was a graduate of the University of Edinburgh. The mother, a lady of rare culture, intelligence and refinement, was born in Sligo, Ireland, of English parentage. Mrs. Clifford came to Minnesota in 1865 to take up educational work, and taught in the district schools in Goodhue county for a time. She was afterward assistant to the state superintendent of public instruction and also did special institute work, in which she continued ten years. In the Masson family were ten daughters: Catherine, Mrs. John R. Jones, of Leeds, N. D.; Mary, Mrs. John N. Dickson, of Northfield; Isabella, Mrs. William F. Whittle; Margaret, Mrs. E. B. Law, and Jemima, Mrs. John Clifford, also of Northfield. Elizabeth, Mrs. Janes Law; Caroline Louisa, Mrs. Cassius M. Clay Viant; Matilda Masson; Hannah, Mrs. Adam Stark, and Jean Masson are dead. Mr. and Mrs. Clifford lived on their picturesque farm, "Violet Grange," in Stanton for six years after their marriage, and there Mr. Clifford erected a new home. In April, 1874, they moved to Northfield, where Mr. Clifford was engaged for a time in the Law brothers' general store. In 1885 he erected a building and opened a grocery and fruit store, which he conducted with much success up to the time of his death, which occurred August 23, 1905. Mr. Clifford was a man of sterling qualities, honest and upright, and liked by all with whom he came in contact. He possessed those peculiar qualities that drew men to him and held their unwavering friendship. He was always known as a good citizen and a true advocate of all good causes pertaining to the general interest and uplift of humanity and welfare of the city. His record as a soldier against the Indians and in Tennessee and North Carolina with General Schofield's Twenty-third army corps was without a stain as a brave and faithful veteran. He served the city faithfully for twenty-two years as treasurer, being re-elected regularly each two years without an opposing candidate and was holding the office at the time of his death. He was a charter member of the J. L. Heywood Post, No. 93, G. A. R., was at one time commander, and held the office of adjutant for many years. In his politics he was a Republican.

**Oliver F. Brand**, of Faribault, successful nurseryman, was born in Lewis county, New York, January 7, 1844, of English parents, being the thirteenth in a family of fourteen. At the age of six years he was taken by his parents to Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, and there received his boyhood education. When he had reached the age of twelve years his mother died, and he spent his fourteenth and fifteenth years working on farms. While still in his middle teens he enlisted in Company K, First



Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, was mustered in at Milwaukee as a private October 8, 1861, and remained with his regiment nearly a year, being mustered out in November, 1862, by reason of illness, at Nashville, Tenn. After this he returned to Fond du Lac and in the fall of 1863 entered the employ of the old Rochester Nursery, of Rochester, N. Y., S. Moulson being the proprietor. He traveled for this company in Wisconsin and Illinois for one year and spent the year following in Iowa, manufacturing and selling milk safes; then ninety days in southwestern Wisconsin buying cattle and shipping them to Chicago. In January, 1866, he resumed the nursery business, planting his first 700 grafts in April, 1867, at Wabasha, Minn. In the spring of 1868 he started a small nursery in Richland township, Rice county. He also owned a nursery in Medford, Steele county, and one at Wells township, purchased in 1868 from J. R. Brown by Mr. Brand and Henry Lindsey. After about a year this partnership was dissolved, each partner taking an equal share. In 1870 Mr. Brand purchased his present home place from Judge John M. Berry, the property consisting of sixty acres, now in the city limits of Faribault. In 1877 Mr. Brand purchased a large tract of land in Lincoln county, Minnesota, but disposed of this in 1882. He made an unsuccessful venture in the production of sorghum during the cold summer of 1883. That fall, on account of the failing health of his beloved wife, he went to Tennessee, thence to Florida in November, 1885, returning to Faribault in the spring of 1886, where he has since resided. Mr. Brand is a fearless Prohibitionist in politics and wields a vigorous pen against the saloon. He was a presidential elector on that ticket in 1908. He helped to organize the township of Ash Lake, in Lincoln county, Minnesota, and was one of its first supervisors. He also helped to organize the first school district of Ash Lake. He is a member and has been twice commander of Michael Cook Post, No. 123, G. A. R., and is the only surviving charter member of Unity Lodge, No. 45, A. O. U. W. He was married, December 16, 1867, at Fond du Lac, Wis., to Mary Jane Mack, and of the children born to this union four lived to maturity, three dying in infancy. Norton F. is connected with his father and brother as salesman; Archie M. is his father's partner in the nursery business. Frank R. lives in Cannon City township. John S. is a traveling salesman. Mrs. Mary Jane Brand died May 12, 1899, and Mr. Brand was married July 19, 1900, to Mrs. Adalaide G. (Cooley) Paul, of Faribault.

Mr. Brand took a very active part in the Granger movement of 1872 to 1874 and was secretary of a council of eighteen granges which held quarterly meetings at Faribault. In February, 1873, he was elected a member of executive committee of the state

grange, which at that time was the representative of 600 granges in the state. That fall he went as one of three delegates from the state to attend a convention on transportation held at Keokuk, Iowa. He has always been progressive and has originated a great many seedling apples, plums and pears, and the finest lot of seedling peonies in America. He is a believer in Spiritualism and Christian Science.

The parents of Oliver F. Brand were Benjamin and Abigail Baker (King) Brand, natives of England, who came to America in 1827, locating in Albany, N. Y., until 1833, then moving to Lewis county, in the same state. Benjamin Brand took charge of surveying and selling a large tract of land for Garret Dennison, a New York attorney. He acquired 106 acres of this land for himself, developed it, and followed general farming until 1849. He then sold out and the following year moved to Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, farming 100 acres until 1864. In the fall of that year he came to Rice county, purchased 160 acres in Richland township, section 22, and farmed until 1870, when he purchased a home within the city limits of Faribault, and there ended his days, December 3, 1882. His wife died in Fond du Lac December 30, 1855.

**William Saemrow**, a prosperous farmer of Shieldsville township, Rice county, Minnesota, was born in Germany, January 10, 1863, and is a son of William and Caroline (Melchort) Saemrow. The father died in Germany in 1870, but the mother still survives. When William was seventeen years of age, in 1880, accompanied by his brother Charles, he immigrated to the United States, and coming direct to Minnesota began by hiring out to farmers by the month. Later on they purchased farms, which they have since carried on with eminent success. Charles settled on section 7 and William on section 31, in Shieldsville township, the latter buying the farm formerly owned by Postmaster W. L. Eddy. The few old buildings that were then on the place have been supplanted by a fine class of up-to-date improvements, the spacious and substantial ten-room farmhouse being heated by a system of hot air, and the place being fully equipped with all modern appliances and implements required in conducting a modern farm. Mr. Saemrow carries on general farming and stock raising and withal is thrifty and forehanded. On July 1, 1888, Mr. Saemrow, married Bertha Boldt, who died in 1904, and on September 25, 1906, he married Emma Schmesdtke, a native of Germany. By his first marriage Mr. Saemrow had seven children: William, twenty-one; Mattie, eighteen; Lydia, seventeen; Lena, fourteen; Emma, eleven; Bertha, ten, and Rosena, six years of age.

**Edward F. Swanson**, a successful and popular business man of Faribault, is a native of Minnesota, and was born at Warsaw, Rice county, July 31, 1868. His parents, Andrew and Mary (Markenson) Swanson, natives of Sweden, came to this country in 1847. They lived in Chicago a short time, and then settled on a farm in Goodhue county, Minnesota, whence they moved, in 1868, to the town of Warsaw in Rice county. Here the father carried on general farming till his decease, which occurred at the family homestead in February, 1900. The mother died in March, 1898. Edward F. spent his boyhood on his father's farm, and after closing his school days in the district schools worked on the home farm after attaining his majority some twelve years. On November 14, 1901, he began his business career in Faribault as a partner with Dr. Hay, in the livery, boarding, feed and sale stables, with which he is now connected. Under careful and conservative management the business has been a success from the start and each succeeding year marks a most satisfactory advance and growth in trade. Mr. Swanson is active in fraternal organizations, being a member of the Eastern Star, the Eagles, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and Modern Woodmen of America. He also belongs to the Commercial Club, of Faribault, and as a member of the common council served as chairman of the committee on streets in 1908. He is a Republican in political opinions, and in his religious convictions adheres to the faith of the Congregational Church. On February 15, 1894, Mr. Swanson married Lulu B., daughter of Alvin A. and Ellen (Archer) Barrett, natives of the Empire State, who moved to Minnesota in 1882, settling on a farm near Owatonna, where the father carried on general farming till his retirement in 1891. His death occurred in 1899 and that of the mother in 1894. Mr. and Mrs. Swanson have one child, Leroy F., who resides at home.

**J. H. Tetrault** is a native of Rice county, Minnesota, and has always lived at Faribault, where he was born January 13, 1870. His parents, Frank and Mary (LeClair) Tetrault came from Canada, their native country, in 1868, and settled at Faribault. The father is a carpenter by trade, and had his first shop in Faribault on the site of the present Great Western railroad depot, and there manufactured wagons and sleighs. He made the first pair of bobsleds in Faribault. He afterwards worked as a cabinet maker for Mr. A. L. Hill. Still later he did finishing work and still follows his regular trade. His wife passed away in 1901. Our subject acquired a good common and high school education in his native place, and then, for a time, was engaged in farming. Since the spring of 1906 Mr. Tetrault has given his attention to the transfer business and as sole proprietor of the dray and

transfer line which he then established he has achieved most gratifying success. Mr. Tetrault, although independent in his political views and actions, has served on Democratic committees. He is a member of the Eagles and the Order of Catholic Foresters. In religious principles he adheres to the faith of the Catholic Church. On April 16, 1891, Mr. Tetrault married Minnie, daughter of Archibald and Minnie (Duffiney) Carpenter, who came from Canada to Minnesota about 1886. The father was a farmer and died in 1893. The mother now—1910—lives at Faribault. Mr. and Mrs. Tetrault have four children and they are named, in order of birth, Oliver, Olive, Cecelia and Eugene.

**Philip A. Schochet**, senior member of the firm doing business as the Faribault Iron and Metal Company, is a native of Russia and was born April 3, 1868, to Ephriam and Rose Schochet. The parents came to this country in 1890, and for two years the father was in the dry goods business at Minneapolis, and then moved to Faribault, where he and the mother now reside. Philip A. acquired his education in his native land, and there engaged in buying and shipping fruit. In 1888 he came to this country and for eleven years lived at Minneapolis, engaged in the dry goods trade and in buying and selling iron, metal, etc. In 1899 Mr. Schochet settled at Faribault and under the firm name of Schochet & Mark established and carried on a wholesale iron and metal business, buying and shipping their products in car loads to Chicago and other large cities. The firm afterwards changed to Faribault Iron and Metal Company, the members of the present firm besides Mr. Schochet being Mr. M. Newman and Mr. Harry Mark. Mr. Schochet is active in fraternal organizations, being identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen of America and the Modern Brotherhood. He is a Republican in politics, and in religious matters adheres to the Hebrew faith. On October 9, 1894, Mr. Schochet married Rachel Goldfarb, whose parents are natives of Roumania and now live at Omaha, Neb. Mr. and Mrs. Schochet have two children, viz.: Nachman and Sarah.

**Harry Mark** was born in Russia, November 16, 1871, and is a son of Charles and Molly (Kassler) Mark, who came from Russia, their native land, in 1893. They first settled at New Hampton, Iowa, and moved thence in 1897 to Minneapolis, where they now reside. Harry was educated in his native land, and there worked with his father at the butchers' trade. In 1887 he came to America, and going to Dubuque, Iowa, worked in a grocery store for a time, then spent two years at Elma, Iowa, in the clothing business, and from there went to New Hampton. In 1899 he took up his residence in Faribault, and engaged in business with



Mr. Philip Schochet, buying and shipping iron, metal, second-hand machinery, etc. In 1909 Mr. M. Newman came into the business and the name was changed to the Faribault Iron and Metal Company, which has an extensive trade, ranking among the prosperous and wide-awake establishments of Faribault. Mr. Mark is a shrewd business man: a Hebrew in religious faith, a Republican in politics and a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Modern Samaritans and other fraternal societies. On December 24, 1893, Mr. Mark married Mollie Schochet, a daughter of Ephriam and Rose Schochet, now residing at Faribault. Mr. and Mrs. Mark have a family of seven children, named, in the order of their birth, Abraham, Israel, Ida B., Sarah, Benjamin M., Hillie and Charlotte.

**Timothy Leary**, proprietor of the livery business that bears his name, is a native of Faribault, Minn., and has always lived there. He was born February 29, 1868, and is the fourth child of John and Elisa (Hand) Leary, who reared a family of five children, viz.: William, now living at Walcott; D. J., proprietor of the Commercial Hotel at Faribault; A. H., of Minneapolis, and Mary, the youngest, who lives with our subject. The parents came from Ireland, and in 1840 the father settled at Syracuse, N. Y., and worked, farming, and thence moved to Portage City, Wis., and in April, 1857, settled at Faribault. In 1866 he established himself in the livery business, which was conducted under the name of Sheffield, Leary & Pew till 1876. He then purchased his partners' interest and for twelve years carried on the business in his own name. In 1888 the son, D. J., came into the business, and it was carried on under the name of John Leary & Son until 1899, when the father retired from active work. The mother passed away in March, 1904. Our subject attended the public schools at Faribault, and after leaving school was employed about his father's business. After his father's retirement he conducted the business with his brother, D. J., until 1909, since which time he has carried it on in his own name, having purchased his brother's interest.

Mr. Leary is a Democrat in political sentiment, but has never taken any active part in political matters more than to perform his duties as a good citizen. He is a Catholic in religious faith.

**T. J. Murphy** is a prosperous business man, of Faribault, Minn. He is a native of Canada, and was born August 8, 1865, to Michael and Mary (Heatherman) Murphy. The former a native of Ireland and the latter of Canada, whither the father immigrated in 1847. He was a farmer, and in 1865, after his marriage, went to Ohio and lived two years, then returned to Canada, whence in 1867 he removed with his family to Lake City, Wabasha county, Minnesota, where he passed the rest of his

life on a farm, his death occurring September 4, 1908. The mother now—1910—lives in Mower county, where the family own a fine farm of 240 acres. Our subject grew up on his father's farm and acquired a common school education. On attaining his majority in 1886 he went to Kenyon and was there engaged in the furniture and undertaking business two years. Selling out his interest in 1888, he next carried on a wood work shop and business some fourteen years with success. In 1902 he sold this business and then, for nine months, was engaged in the rug trade at Mankato, after which he bought a half interest in the Dish Rug Company and took up his residence at Faribault. In 1905 Mr. Murphy purchased the other half of the business and since that time has been sole proprietor of what has come to be widely known as the Faribault Rug Company. The house manufactures all kinds of rugs, carpets, etc., and through its salesmen carries on an extensive and growing trade throughout the states of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa and the Dakotas. Mr. Murphy has served as assessor for Mower county. He is a Democrat in politics and in religion adheres to the Catholic faith. He belongs to the Knights of Columbus, the Foresters and Modern Woodmen, and is also a member of the Commercial Club of Faribault. In January, 1893, Mr. Murphy married Mary Conniff, whose parents, Peter and Margaret (Haggerty) Conniff, formerly of Houston county, Minnesota, in 1871 settled on a fine farm in Mower county, where they now reside. Mr. and Mrs. Murphy have three children, Frances, Joseph and Mary, all of whom are attending the parochial schools.

**Albert Ochs** is a popular and prosperous merchant of Faribault. He is a native of Minnesota and was born at New Ulm October 26, 1872, a son of Joseph Ochs, native of Germany. The father settled at Buffalo, N. Y., in 1852 and worked there as a contractor and builder three years, then moved to St. Paul, Minn., whence, after two and a half years he moved to New Ulm and there followed his regular occupation all his life. His death occurred in the fall of 1905, and was followed by that of the mother in the winter of 1906. After closing his school days in his native place, Albert worked as a clerk in the drygoods store of Mr. Frank Kutzing until 1888. With his brother, J. A. Ochs, he then established the firms of Ochs Brothers and opened a 5 and 10-cent store on Third street, where it was continued till 1894, when the location was changed to Center avenue. In 1901 Mr. O. H. Ochs came into the firm. The business prospered and branch stores were established at Owatonna, Waseca, St. Paul, Austin and New Ulm and the business grew to large proportions. In 1909 our subject purchased the stock of the main store at Faribault and as proprietor of "The Bee Hive," con-

ducted the business, dealing in drygoods, cloaks, suits, men's clothing and furnishings, shoes, etc., and in fact, everything ordinarily carried in a general department store. Mr. Ochs is active in several fraternal societies, being identified with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Catholic Foresters, Knights of Columbus and Ancient Order of United Workmen. He also belongs to the Commercial Club of Faribault. In politics he is independent in his views and actions, and in religious faith is a Catholic. On October 23, 1900, Mr. Ochs married Alice C. Tetrault, whose father, a native of Canada, is in the carpet business of Faribault. The mother was born in Connecticut and died in December, 1900. Mr. and Mrs. Ochs have three children, named respectively, Alfred L., Cecelia A. and Donald F. Mr. Ochs is financially interested in the Citizens Bank of Faribault.

**William H. Ratzlaff**, though comparatively a young man, has attained, through his own efforts, a degree of success and a standing in the business life of his city, of which he may justly be proud. A native of Faribault, Minn., he was born October 5, 1874, to Albert and Wilhelmina (Budde) Ratzlaff, natives of Berlin, Germany. His father, a baker by occupation, came to this country in 1866 and settled at Faribault, and there carried on a prosperous bakery business until his decease, in 1882. After his death the business was conducted until 1905 by his widow, who now lives in that city. William H. acquired a good English education in the common and high schools of Faribault, and also attended a German school there. He began his business life as a clerk in the store of Mr. P. P. Kinsey, with whom he remained eleven years and in 1897 established himself in trade on his own account, as sole proprietor of the prosperous and growing business that now bears his name. His establishment is thoroughly equipped with every needed appliance for carrying on its extensive trade in drygoods, carpets, rugs, cloaks, men's furnishings, etc., and ranks with the most up-to-date establishments in the city. Mr. Ratzlaff takes an active interest in affairs, and has served two terms as alderman from the Second ward, being supported by both Republicans and Democrats, though himself a Republican. He is an active member of the Commercial Club of Faribault and serves on the manufacturing and mercantile committee. In religious belief he adheres to the tenets of the German Lutheran church.

On September 25, 1901, Mr. Ratzlaff married Bertha Herbst, whose parents removed from Wisconsin, their native state, and settled at Waseca, Minn., where they now live. Mr. and Mrs. Ratzlaff have two children, Alonzo William and Elaine Anna.

**George O. Lee** is a native of Minnesota, being born in Warsaw township, Rice county, October 19, 1856. He is a son of Orvin and Laura (Cobb) Lee, natives of Connecticut. They came to Minnesota in 1855, located in Warsaw township, Rice county, where the father farmed until 1863, whence he sold out and came to Medford, where he did contract work on a small scale. Later he entered the meat market business, which he followed until about 1882, at which time he retired from active business life, making his home in Medford, where he remained up to the time of his decease March 16, 1904. The mother still resides in Medford. George O. acquired his education in the public schools of Medford. Leaving school he entered the cheese manufacturing business, working for the Crescent Creamery for six years. Then in 1893 he built a meat market at Medford, where he carried on a retail trade successfully, and also buys stock for shipment. In 1877 Mr. Lee married Emily E., daughter of John and Elizabeth Bailey. The fruit of this union is four children, Ralph H., who carries on farming in Medford township; Harold G., assists his father in the meat market; Jessie L. and Frances, who are both living at home. Besides our subject there is one sister in the family, who is now Mrs. Frances Osborn. She and her husband live at Kerney, Okla. In politics Mr. Lee believes in the principles of the Republican party.

**Jens I. Hille**, son of Ingebrit and Thure Hille, natives of Norway, was born in Norway March 16, 1847. The parents carried on farming until the death of the father in 1852. Mother died in Norway in 1892.

Jens was educated in the schools of Norway. Leaving school he followed railroad work for some time, and was a sailor for three years. In 1876 he came to America and located in Cotton Wood county, Minnesota, where he remained three years. He thence removed to New Market, Minn., remaining there three years, after which he came to Webster township, Rice county, Minnesota, where he farmed until 1902. At this time—1902—Mr. Hille took the management of the Webster Co-operative Dairy Association, which he has carried out successfully up to the present time. He still retains his farm. Mr. Hille was married 1875 to Randverg Rivenes, a native of Norway. They have nine children named in the respective order of their birth, viz: Thora; Judeth, who lives at Walseth, Mont.; Jens lives in Minneapolis; Hans resides in North Dakota; John, South Dakota; Andrew, Anna, Sarah, Ester, are all living at home. Mr. Hille has served with credit a number of local offices in his community, such as assessor, census enumerator, clerk of the school board, which office he has filled for eighteen years. He is also



stockholder in the Star Telephone Company and in the creamery. He affiliates with the Republican party, and in religious sentiment he is associated with the Norwegian Lutheran church.

**A. B. Cowan**, a retired farmer of Wells township, is a native of Jefferson county, Indiana, and was born January 24, 1832, to J. W. and Elizabeth (Buchanan) Cowan, natives of Kentucky and Indiana, respectively. In 1855 the father settled on a quarter section of land which he pre-empted in Wells township, and where he made a home and reared his family, being among the first settlers of the township. He was a prosperous farmer and passed his life here, his death occurring March 28, 1887. His widow survived till 1891. Our subject spent his boyhood on his father's farm and attended the public schools in Indiana. He began life as a farmer and after his father's death, took charge of the home place, carrying on general farming, giving special attention to breeding and raising fine horses and cattle. In 1903 he rented the farm and practically retired from active farm work. Mr. Cowan served in the war of the Rebellion, enlisting in Company B, Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, in which he was a corporal. He is independent in his political views and has filled various local town offices. In religious faith, he is an Episcopalian. Mr. Cowan is the second child of a family of eight children. The eldest, George, is now deceased as also France, the third, and E., the fourth child, Elizabeth, the fifth child, lives with our subject, Martha is married to Freeman Rabets and lives in Minneapolis; Anna lives at Eagle Bend, Minn., the wife of John Elppard, and Lucinda is married to Jasper M. Campbell and lives in Colorado. Mr. Cowan has never married. Elizabeth, the fourth daughter mentioned above, is the wife of Theodore Marquis, who is justly proud of his Southern Cross of Honor, won by valor as a Confederate soldier.

**J. A. Coleman** was born in Richland township May 20, 1865. He attended the district school and worked on his father's farm until 1897, and then went into the mercantile business at Rice Lake, Minn., for one year. He then moved to Richland and conducted a general store until 1903, when he sold out and took up farming in Richland township, Rice county. He has served as treasurer of the town board for eight years and town clerk since 1905. He was elected a director of the school board in the summer of 1909.

**F. C. Carlton** was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, in 1854. His parents settled in Steele county, Minnesota, in 1855, and farmed in Owatonna township until 1867. The family then moved to Merton township, where the father died in 1890 and the mother in 1904.

**F. C. Carlton** was educated in the Owatonna schools. After graduating from the high school he taught twelve years. He was elected county superintendent of schools in 1896 and served two years. He is now engaged at farming in Merton township. In politics he is a Republican and served one term in the state legislature, 1907, and for six years he was county commissioner of Steele county.

**Orlando Johnson** was born in New York state June 27, 1831. In the spring of 1853 he came to Minnesota, settling on a farm in Medford. He served three years in the Civil War and was mustered out at Port Huron. He then returned to Medford township and farmed it four years, then he erected a cheese factory, which he operated eighteen years. He is now living a retired life.

**James McCabe** was born in Massachusetts June 18, 1833. He came to Minnesota in 1856 and located in Webster township, Rice county. He did not devote much of his time to farming. He was engaged in the mercantile business for forty years. He was burned out in 1907 and moved to Northfield, Minn. In the spring of 1910 he moved back on the farm, where he now lives. He has served on the town and school board a good many years; also on the board of county commissioners.

**F. R. Kauffman**, merchant and postmaster of Nerstrand, was born October 1, 1876. He was educated in the district schools of Hampton, graduating from the Hastings high school in 1895. He then entered the grocery store of his brother, W. F. Kauffman, at St. Paul. In 1904 he opened a general store at Nerstrand. In his politics he is a Republican and has served as postmaster for five years. He is a stockholder in Farmers State Bank. He is married and has two children, Evelyn E. and Estell L.

**C. E. Little** was born in Henry county, Illinois, November 14, 1858. He came to Minnesota in 1904 and bought 180 acres in Bridgewater township, Rice county, where he now lives.

**J. C. Sommers** was born in Illinois March 28, 1854. His father, Frederick, settled on a farm in Northfield township in 1855. John C. was educated at the district schools and worked on the home place, where he now resides. He is married and has three children.

**Edward Lewis** lives on the old Cole farm in Cannon City township. He was born in Ohio April 4, 1867. He came to Minnesota with his father, who settled in Cannon City. Edward attended the district schools and the high school at Faribault. He taught five winters and assisted his father on the farm summers.

**G. A. Miller** was born in New York state August 27, 1847. In 1858 he came West with his father, George W. Miller, and

the family settled in Forest township, Rice county, Minnesota. In 1873 they sold out and moved to Wright county, where the father died in 1874. G. A. Miller worked his farm and run a mill until 1904, when he engaged in the mercantile business at Millersburg. He has been town clerk for the last twelve years.

**C. O. Persons** was born in Sweden November 11, 1846. In 1869 he came to America, locating near Northfield, Minn., where he remained three years. In 1872 he moved to Meeker county, where he engaged in farming. In 1876 he returned to Rice county, locating in Northfield township, where he remained two years, then he moved to Forest township, where he has farmed up to the present time, 1910. He has served as supervisor, justice of the peace, assessor and postmaster for fifteen years. He took the census in 1890 and 1910. He has also served as chairman of the town board four years and on the school board a number of years.

**Axel Anderson**, of the firm of A. Anderson & Sons, was born in Sweden, April 8, 1852, son of A. G. and Mary Anderson. He attended the common schools of Sweden, and came to this country in 1880, engaging with the Seymour & Scabin Threshing Company at Stillwater until 1883, when he went to Dassel and worked in a repair shop. Then he came to Faribault and from 1884 to 1900 was engaged with F. W. Winter & Co. in their foundry and machine shop. In 1900 he went into partnership with Andrew H. Rawson until 1905, when Axel R. and George L. Anderson, his sons, purchased the Rawson interests. The firm is now known as A. Anderson & Sons, Faribault Machine Shop and Foundry Company. Mr. Anderson is serving on the official board of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Faribault. He was married in 1876 to Hannah C. Erickson, and to this union have been born five children: Axel Richard, George Lambert, Jennie Emily, Isabell and David.

**Edward Clark Bill, D. D.**, was one of that noble band of men whose piety, ability and character did much toward giving the Episcopal Church at Faribault the position in the state and nation that it occupies today. At the time of his death it was written: "The decease of Edward Clark Bill is a great shock to the community in which he has lived and labored so long and well as a faithful steward in the Lord's vineyard. His death will be felt as an irreparable loss, not only to his family, his friends and his church, but also to that great body of people who are striving to overcome evil and to build up the kingdom of God on a firm and sure foundation. Mr. Bill was a remarkable man. Handicapped by nature as few men are, he overcame obstacles with which a majority of people would scarcely have dared to contend, and attained to such a degree of success

as placed him far above many of the most talented and ambitious of his fellows. As a musician he had few equals, and as a preacher he was able and eloquent, and possessed an unusual power of impressing the truth on the minds of his hearers. As a man he was very genial and warm-hearted and showed forth in his daily life that he was a true disciple of the Master in thought and deed." Edward Clark Bill was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., July 15, 1846, son of Charles Edward Bill, the well known banker and financier. He attended the public schools, and being early disposed toward an academic life, graduated from St. Stephen's College at Anandale, N. Y. In 1870, attracted by Bishop Whipple's work in Faribault, he came to this city and entered the Seabury Divinity School, from which he graduated in 1873. Previous to this he spent one year abroad, traveling with his sister through the principal cities of Europe. At once upon graduation he was made precenter of the Cathedral of Our Merciful Savior. His musical education and his proficiency as an organist splendidly equipped him for this service. Later he became associate rector of the parish of the Good Shepherd here until 1889, when he became associate priest of Christ Church, St. Paul. He was a most earnest and eloquent preacher, and his services attracted much attention as well as large congregations, both in Faribault and St. Paul. While in St. Paul he continued his work as professor of homiletics and liturgics at the Seabury Divinity School, which position he held at the time of his lamented death. In 1881 his failing health necessitated his resignation as associate priest of Christ Church at St. Paul, and he returned to the family residence in Faribault. Two years previous to this the degree of D. D. had been bestowed upon him by his alma mater. Dr. Bill was a trustee of St. Mary's Hall, a member of the standing committee of the diocese, and dean of the Southern Convocation for several years and until his death. He passed away May 11, 1892, after a brave fight with ill health. Dr. Bill was married in 1875 to Elizabeth Hoyt, and this union was blessed with two children: Alfred Hoyt Bill and Natalie Rochester Bill, who is the wife of Willard McCampbell Reid.

**Alfred Hoyt Bill** was born at Rochester, N. Y., May 5, 1879, the son of Rev. Edward Clark Bill, D. D., and Elizabeth (Hoyt) Bill, his wife. He attended the public schools, completing the course in the Faribault High School, and graduated from Yale University with the degree of A. B. from the academic department in 1903. After a year of travel abroad and in the United States and Canada, and a year of residence in Plainfield, N. J., Mr. Bill settled in Faribault in his father's former home at 528 West Fifth street, where he has since devoted himself to the



study of English literature and to the management of the property which he inherited from his father. He has never engaged actively in business, but was at one time one of the directors of the Citizens National Bank of Faribault, and of the Theopold Reid Company, wholesale grocers of that city, neither of which positions he holds at the present time. Mr. Bill is a Republican in politics and a member of the Episcopal Church, of which his father was for so many years a clergyman. He has been a vestryman of the Cathedral parish for eight years and is now its treasurer. He is a member of the board of trustees of the Bishop Seabury Mission and of the board of trustees of St. Mary's Hall, and of the Faribault Public Library Board. Mr. Bill was married June 30, 1903, to Florence Dorothy Reid, of Plainfield, N. J., born December 12, 1881, at Louisiana, Mo., the daughter of Samuel and Anna E. (Young) Reid. Samuel Reid is a retired tobacco manufacturer and lives in Jersey City, N. J. Mrs. Reid died September 24, 1896. Mr. and Mrs. Bill have two children: Florence Dorothy, born April 13, 1907, and Edward Clark, born April 26, 1910.

**Dennis Cavanaugh**, now deceased, was a prominent resident of Faribault. As a man and a citizen, Captain Cavanaugh was possessed in an eminent degree of those personal and social qualities that endeared him to the community in which he lived and moved. He was ever seeking opportunities to please and to serve. He was charitable to the poor and needy, but in his good deeds always modest and self-sacrificing. In his business relations his career was characterized by the strictest adherence to the laws of probity and honor. As a citizen he was energetic, generous of time and of money in the promotion of every interest that tended to the uplifting of the moral tone of the community, or aided in its commercial and industrial progress. Dennis Cavanaugh was born of Irish parentage, December 3, 1838, in Dresden, Ontario. He came to Minnesota in 1856, stopping first at Hastings, and a year later settling in Faribault, where he continued to make his home. He took the oath of allegiance as a soldier of the United States, August 15, 1862, and was at once commissioned as second lieutenant of Company H of the Tenth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, becoming its lieutenant September 13, 1862. September 26, 1864, he was promoted to the captaincy of Company C, and was honorably mustered out with his regiment August 19, 1865. The following is his military record: "Served in the Sioux War in the summer of 1863, under Gen. H. H. Sibley; went south in the autumn of 1863; served in Kentucky under Gen. S. P. Jennison; in Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas and Missouri under Gen. A. J. Smith; in Missouri under Gen. W. S. Rosencranz; in Florida and Alabama under

Gen. A. J. Smith. He joined the Loyal Legion November 2, 1887. The war over, Captain Cavanaugh returned to Faribault and engaged in business, becoming with years one of the foremost merchants. He served eighteen years as a member of the city council and for a part of that time served as its president. He died December 11, 1909, and during his funeral service every place of business in Faribault was closed by proclamation of the mayor.

**Loan H. Dibble**, the popular manager of the Faribault theatre, was born on his father's farm in Woodville township, Waseca county, Minnesota, April 29, 1872. After his graduation from the Waseca high school he at once became connected with the Andrews Opera Company, working his way up to manager and agent of that and many other organizations, in which capacity he remained until 1905, when he came to Faribault to enter upon the duties of his present position as manager of the local theatre. By catering to the better class of theatregoers and presenting high class productions only, he has achieved an unusual degree of success. He is also manager of the Faribault Bill Posting Company. In politics he adheres to the tenets of the Republican party. His fraternal affiliations are with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, of which he is a charter member, the Woodmen of the World, and he is also a member of the local Commercial Club. Mr. Dibble served ten years as a member of Company K, Second Regiment of the Minnesota National Guard, seeing active service during the Spanish-American War as musician in Company K, Twelfth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and is now connected with the United Spanish War Veterans. May 4, 1905, at Pipestone, Minn., he was married to Lillian G. Hart, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. I. L. Hart, the father editor of the "Pipestone Star." Two children have been born to this marriage: Redford H., born February 24, 1906, and Gardner H., born September 30, 1909. The family residence is located at 504 Central avenue. Mr. and Mrs. Dibble attend worship at the Episcopal Church. Charles H. and Charlotte T. (Redford) Dibble, parents of our subject, were natives of New York state. At the age of four the mother emigrated to Wisconsin with her parents, who located in Milwaukee, Wis., and conducted a tavern. The father came to Oconomowoc, Wis., with his parents when a boy of twelve years. In 1866, after their marriage, they removed to near Faribault, Minn., where the father followed farming for a year, subsequently moving to Woodville township, Waseca county, where he continued farming until 1883. He then came to the city of Waseca, engaging in cabinet making until his death, which occurred in November, 1895. The mother passed away December 24, 1908.

**Frederick Willard Frink**, the historian of Rice county, was for over half a century a prominent figure in Faribault. Being of a literary mind, and early realizing the importance of historical records, he devoted his leisure moments to the writing of local history, and all Rice county historians of the future will be indebted to his writings. In 1868 he published a "Record of Rice County, Minnesota." three years later he issued a supplement; in 1900 he published his "Reminiscences of a Pioneer" in the "Faribault Republican," and in 1901 his "Short History of Faribault" was issued. Aside from this he was the author of many speeches and newspaper articles. He assisted in organizing the county, was a member of the first elected board of county commissioners, selected the site for the county court house, prepared the first charter of the city of Faribault, and was county auditor twenty-one years. The subject of this sketch was born in Rutland county, Vermont, June 24, 1828. His father was Calvin Frink, and his mother's name Lydia L. Avery. His paternal great-great-grandfather was from England and his maternal great-grandfather was a captain in the Continental army. When Frederick was ten years old the family moved to Green Bay, Wis., and one year later, in 1839, to Mineral Point, in the same state. There the family remained until September, 1841, when they removed to Sauk county, where Calvin Frink and two other men laid out the village of Prairie du Sac. There Frederick W. spent a pioneer boyhood. The first mail ever taken from Madison westward to Prairie du Sac was carried by him on horseback at the age of eleven years, a ride of more than fifty miles a day. All the road he had most of the way was a trail marked by "blazed trees," he assisting his father in the blazing. There Frederick remained ten years, farming and lumbering, pursuing his education meanwhile at the Beloit Seminary in 1846, paying some attention to the classics as well as mathematics and other practical branches. In 1851 he went to Waterloo, Grant county, in the southwestern part of Wisconsin, and was there engaged in lumbering three years. In 1854 he came to Minnesota, and with three other men took the first claims on East Prairie, in the township of Richland. There Mr. Frink opened a farm, but his health failing, he moved to Faribault in 1856. In October of that year he started the "Rice County Herald," which he sold out in a short time and which is now the "Faribault Republican." About this time he purchased a fifth interest in Shieldsville village, but this proved a financial failure. After he had made and lost his fortune at Shieldsville he clerked three years in Faribault, was two years of this time deputy county treasurer, and was elected county auditor in November, 1862, serving until twenty-one years later, when he

retired and purchased the county abstracts. He died March 15, 1906. Mr. Frink was chairman of the first elected board of county commissioners, but resigned at the close of the first year to devote all his time to the Shieldsville townsite. September 22, 1852, he married Julia E. Beach, of Grant county, Wisconsin, and to this union was born one son, Edward Lauman, now a Faribault merchant.

**Edward L. Frink**, hardware merchant, was born in Waterloo, Wis., January 17, 1854, son of Frederick Willard and Julia Elizabeth (Beach) Frink, the pioneers. He received his education in the public schools of Rice county and in Shattuck school, and then engaged in the hardware business, in which he has participated thirty years in the store of Cavanaugh & Frink. Mr. Frink was married March 21, 1888, to Ida D. Kellogg.

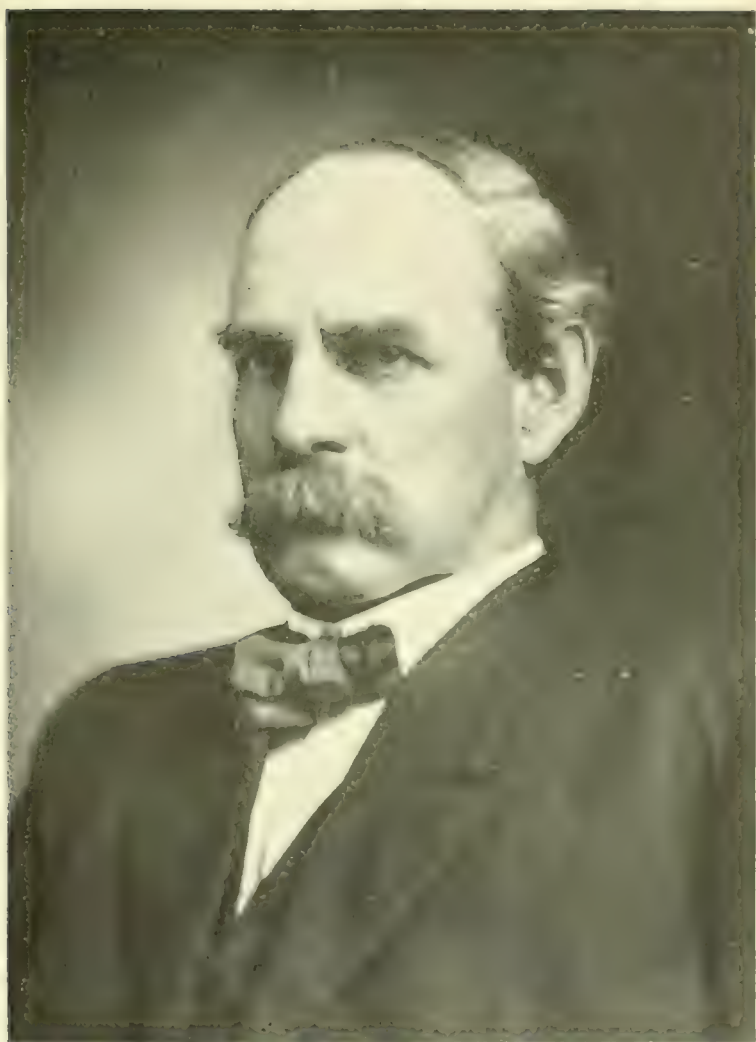
**John Grant**, for many years an honored and respected public-spirited citizen of Faribault, Minn., was born in Glengary county, Canada, January 26, 1840. After attending the district schools of his native county until fifteen years of age he removed to Hartland, Vt., where he was a student in the public schools for two years. Returning to Canada, he remained a year, going back to Vermont in 1858, and migrating to Ohio in the fall of the same year and engaging in farming until 1865, when he came to Rice county, Minnesota, locating in Walcott township, and continuing in farming, also devoting his attention to railroad contracting. In 1870 he discontinued farming operations and carried on railroad contracting exclusively until 1878, when failing health compelled him to seek an occupation less arduous. Accordingly he entered the grocery business at Faribault, remaining in this line two years and then returning to railroad contracting, in which he has ever since been engaged with much success. He constantly employs a large force of men, who are kept busy filling his contracts for grading, track laying and all kinds of railroad construction work. Mr. Grant has largely operated in the states of Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois, Missouri, North and South Dakota, Montana, Idaho and Washington, but his home has been permanently located at Faribault since 1870. In politics he is a staunch Republican, serving as sheriff of Steele county during 1874 and 1875, and as county treasurer during 1888, 1889, 1890 and 1891. He is a high degree Mason. March 9, 1869, at Northfield, Minn., he was married to Mary Ann Grant, by whom he has five children: Donald, who died in December, 1905; Mrs. Nellie Wood, of Faribault; Mayme, living at home; Anna E., also living at home, a singer of considerable note; and George W., who is engaged in contracting with his father. The family home is located at 615 West Second street. They are loyal attendants of the Congregational Church.



**Rev. D. C. Hauk**, the beloved pastor of the United Evangelical Church, residing at Nerstrand, was born in Germany, February 9, 1867, son of J. D. and Henrietta Hauk, also natives of Germany. He received his education in Germany and in Chicago, and entered the ministry in 1894. His first church was at Charles City, Ia., and before coming to Nerstrand in the spring of 1908 he had charges at Le Mars, Big Stone, S. D., and Odessa, Minn. He was married, September 26, 1889, to Marie Haehlen, and to this union have been born five children: Wesley D., Esther S., Newton W., Mildred L. and A. Edna, all at home.

**Stephen Jewett**, treasurer of The Bishop Seabury Mission and Shattuck School, and financial agent of St. Mary's Hall, was born in New Haven, Conn., May 20, 1844, son of Henry and Elizabeth (Gregory) Jewett, both descended from New England colonial ancestry. He attended Watertown Academy and the Cheshire Episcopal Academy, in his native state, and came to Minnesota October 15, 1865, just after the war. November 1 of the same year he came to Faribault. It is interesting to note that Mr. Jewett was drawn hither by the influence of Bishop Whipple, whom he had often met in the home of his grandfather, Stephen Jewett, rector of the historic old Trinity Church in New Haven, Conn. For many years Mr. Jewett recuperated his health, traveling extensively through the Northwest, including tours through the Dakotas in the earliest pioneer and frontier days. July 8, 1874, he was made treasurer of The Bishop Seabury Mission, and later he assumed the same relation with Shattuck and St. Mary's. In 1881 he purchased the real estate and insurance agency of H. A. Scandrett, and in less than a year George A. Weston became a partner, when the firm of Weston & Jewett was established. After twenty-six years, April 1, 1908, the company moved to its present commodious quarters, where it now maintains the largest office of its kind in southern Minnesota. Mr. Jewett is also vice-president of the Security Bank. He belongs to the Society of the Colonial Wars, state of Minnesota, and is deputy governor of that society in this state. He is a member of the New York chapter of the Mayflower Society and was formerly a member of the Society of the Sons of the Revolution. For forty years he has been a member and vestryman of the parish of the Good Shepherd. While Mr. Jewett has never cared to mingle in politics, he accepted the honor of the position as mayor of Faribault two terms. He is interested in all historical and patriotic subjects and has had his share in the upbuilding of Faribault.

**Philip Johnson**, for many years a prominent and respected citizen of Faribault, whose decease occurred September 8, 1906, was born in Ireland, September 12, 1827. At an early age he



STEPHEN JEWETT



emigrated to America, locating in New York with his brother and receiving a good education. He then removed to Wisconsin and engaged in the drug business in partnership with his brother Edward, remaining here until the rush to the recently discovered gold mines in California in 1849, being successful as a miner for the next ten years. Returning east in 1860, he located at Jefferson, Wis., and re-entered the drug business, continuing in this line of work after his removal to Faribault, in 1874, until his death, having won the esteem and respect of his large circle of friends and acquaintances as a man of sterling worth and character. Mr. Johnson served for many years as assistant postmaster and was bookkeeper in a bank for some time. In politics he was a staunch Democrat and was an active member of the Faribault board of health for a number of years. He came of a family of doctors, his three brothers all being prominent in the medical profession. May 12, 1856, he was married to Louise McMahon, who died June 12, 1858, leaving one child, Alice Louise, now the widow of William Ungers, who died August 18, 1899. Mr. Johnson was married a second time in January, 1867, to Catherine Conan, of Fox Lake, Wis., who survives him. Mr. Johnson was a faithful member of the Catholic Church, of which Mrs. Johnson is still a loyal supporter.

**A. B. Irvine**, retired and highly respected citizen of Faribault, was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, August 15, 1849, and received his earlier education in the schools of that city. As a youth he spent two years in the British navy and in 1868 came to the United States. He remained a short time in New York and then spent ten years as an engineer and steamfitter in New Jersey. He came to Faribault in 1879 and became engineer at the State School for the Deaf. In this position he remained, faithfully performing the work incidental to his occupation, until the fall of 1908, when he retired. Mr. Irvine is a Republican in politics. He is a high degree Mason and also belongs to the Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias and the Red Men. The subject of this sketch was married while in New Jersey to Catherine Bergin, who died February 1, 1909. Two sons have blessed the Irvine home. James B. is a plumber in Faribault and Benjamin C. is a steamfitter in the same city.

**William Kaiser**, postmaster at Faribault and editor of the "Faribault Journal," was born during the days of the Civil War April 4, 1864, at Stillwater, Minn., son of John and Barbara Kaiser, pioneers. He received his education in the public schools of Stillwater and Faribault, where he thoroughly mastered the common school branches. In the year 1880 he was apprenticed to the Lindeman Brothers, of Faribault, to learn carriage painting. In 1883 he was engaged at this work in Minneapolis and



Stillwater and did car painting in the Omaha shops at Hudson, Wis., and for the Northern Pacific shops at Brainerd, Minn. In the spring of 1884 he went to Chicago and worked at sign painting for five years for Murray & Baker. In 1889 he opened a grocery store at 1642 West Lake street, and the next year a meat market at 1644 on the same street. He sold out in 1891 and came to Faribault. In partnership with Martin Bieter he bought out the grocery business of L. D. Newcome. In 1899 he was appointed postmaster at Faribault, took possession of the office April 1, 1899, and has since served, greatly improving the service and giving general satisfaction. He was first appointed by President William McKinley and the second and third times by President Theodore Roosevelt. He sold out his business to his partner, Martin Bieter, in 1900. In 1903, in the fall, in company with Josel P. Heatwole and I. N. Stewart, he organized the Faribault Printing Company and purchased the "Faribault Journal." In the same year Mr. Stewart sold his interest and retired. In November of that year the "Faribault Daily Journal" was started. April 14, 1906, Mr. Kaiser purchased the interests of Mr. Heatwole and others and became sole owner of the Faribault Printing Company and the "Faribault Journal." February 1, 1909, he became part lessee and manager of the Faribault Opera House with L. H. Dibble. In August of the same year he was elected president of the Faribault Co-operative Company. In 1893 he was elected an alderman of the First Ward of Faribault and served two years. Mr. Kaiser is a member of the Faribault Commercial Club and was one of the organizers of the Faribault street fairs, of which he was president five years. In the campaign of 1896 he was elected president of the McKinley Club. He also helped to organize the Minnesota Postmasters' Association and was elected first president of this association, serving eight years. He was also elected first president of the Tri-State Postmasters' Association, organized in 1909, and consisting of the postmasters of Minnesota, and North and South Dakota. He was a member of the building committee of the Faribault Opera House, was chairman of the fire department committee when a member of the city council, and was a member of the Faribault board of health three years, dating from 1896. Being of a sociable nature, Mr. Kaiser has allied himself with Enterprise Chapter, No. 50, Royal League, of Chicago, Ill.; Faribault Lodge, No. 9, A. F. & A. M.; Athens Chapter, No. 82, O. E. S.; Faribault Lodge, No. 16, K. of P.; Faribault Lodge, No. 1166, B. P. O. E., and the Faribault Automobile Club. The subject of this sketch was married September 15, 1886, to Alice Jane Brown, of Chicago, Ill., and to this union one son, William Martin Kaiser, was born October 30, 1891.

**F. A. Kolling**, a well known farmer of Wheeling township, Rice county, is a native of this county, his natal day being August 3, 1857. His boyhood was passed on his father's farm, meanwhile receiving his education in the district schools and later giving his entire time to assisting his father in the carrying on of the home farm. In 1885 he left the old homestead and purchased his present farm of a hundred and fifty-five acres in Wheeling township, on which he has ever since been successfully engaged in general farming. He is also prominent in several enterprises of local concern, acting as president of the Farmers State Bank of Nerstrand, secretary of the Wheeling Mutual Fire Insurance Company, and president of the Farmers' Co-operative Creamery. In politics he votes with the Republican party and is now serving as justice of the peace. In 1886 he was married to Caroline Mueller, daughter of William and Sophia (Shwake) Mueller, natives of Germany and early settlers of Wheeling township, Rice county, where the father followed general farming up to the time of his death. The mother is also deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Kolling are loyal attendants of the German Evangelical Church. H. C. and Dorothy (Helberg) Kolling, parents of our subject, emigrated from their native land, Germany, in 1850, locating in Cook county, Illinois, where the father continued in farming until 1854, when he removed to Wheeling township, Rice county, Minnesota, purchasing a quarter section, on which he remained in the pursuit of farming until his death in 1895. The mother died a year later.

**John Hoover Lewis** was born in Birmingham, Guernsey county, Ohio, in 1867, during the reconstruction period of our nation's history. His father, Thomas H. Lewis, was born of Welsh Quaker parents and was a farmer by profession. The mother, Eliza J. Hoover, was of Dutch-Irish parentage. In the spring of 1868 Mr. Lewis' parents came west, travelling from Hastings to Faribault by stage. The date of their arrival at Faribault happened to be the first anniversary of Mr. Lewis' birth, April 4, 1868. Mr. Lewis' early education was acquired in District No. 10, in the village of Cannon City. In 1887 he entered the high school of Faribault, from which he graduated in the English course in 1890. After teaching two years in the rural schools of the county of his adoption he entered the University of Minnesota, from which he graduated in 1896, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Science. In addition to the regular academic work of the university Mr. Lewis completed the course offered by the department of pedagogy, in recognition of which he was granted a professional teacher's certificate for life.

Since 1896 Mr. Lewis has held several important educational positions, such as assistant principal of Cloquet high school,

superintendent of the city schools of Hawley and Staples, all of the state of Minnesota.

Poor health compelled Mr. Lewis to leave the schoolroom. In the campaign of 1894 he was a candidate on the Republican ticket for the office of county superintendent for Rice county, but he failed to secure the nomination.

In the fall of this year the county treasurer of Rice county, S. I. Pettit, appointed Mr. Lewis as his deputy, which position of trust Mr. Lewis held for two years, when he became county superintendent of schools for Rice county. He is now entering upon his third term as county superintendent, having been twice nominated and elected to this important position without opposition. It is generally conceded that the rural schools of the county have advanced greatly since Mr. Lewis has had oversight of their interests. Mr. Lewis is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and of the Knights of Pythias. He is a member of the Congregational Church and has for several years been superintendent of various Sunday Schools of this denomination. For the past five years he has been president of the Rice County Sunday School Association. His father and brothers and he have always voted the Republican ticket, except in rare cases where the candidate seemed greater than his party. 1898 was an eventful year in Mr. Lewis' career. On July 7 of that year he was united in marriage with Miss Jessie A. Cowles, of Rice county, who graduated from Winona Normal school and who taught several years in the public schools of Minnesota. This union has been blessed with three children, Donald, Lowell and Dorothy, aged respectively eleven, nine and three years.

**J. J. Lips** was born in Wheeling township, where he now lives, September 19, 1865. He was educated in the district schools of Wheeling and subsequently went to South Dakota, where he took a claim of 320 acres, on which he farmed until 1901, when he rented the farm and returned to Wheeling, where he purchased eighty acres in section 15, and has since carried on general farming with much success. Mr. Lips is a Republican in politics and has served as school clerk for the past seven years. He is a stockholder in the Farmers' State Bank of Nerstrand. The subject of this sketch was married in 1889 to Augusta Schmidt, daughter of Conrad and Caroline Schmidt, and to this union one child, Irvin, has been born.

**William N. Lockwood**, an old and respected citizen of Fari-bault, Minn., was born in Watertown, Conn., June 7, 1832. His early education was received in the public schools of his native place. Leaving school, he spent two and a half years in farming in Scoville county, Connecticut, subsequently going to Naugatuck, same state, and serving two years' apprenticeship in a ma-

chine shop, after which he returned to Waterbury and followed his trade for nine months with the Scoville Manufacturing Company, and then a year with the Ferrell Foundry and Machine Company. In 1852 he removed to New Britain, Conn., being connected with the Stanley Works till the spring of 1856, when he migrated west to Rice county, Minnesota, and homesteaded a hundred and twenty acres in Shieldsville and Kilkenny townships, on which he proved up and remained until the following fall. He then returned to New Britain and engaged in the hardware business, six years later disposing of his interest and became connected with O. B. North & Company, also of New Britain, remaining with this company till their removal to New Haven, same state, shortly afterwards. From here he went to Campville, Conn. In 1891 he bought a home in Faribault, Minn., on Third street, and moved here with his wife. He is now devoting much of his time to looking after his real estate interests, enjoying good health in spite of the fact of his rapidly approaching eightieth birthday. In politics he casts his ballot independent of party, always voting for the welfare of the community. While in Connecticut he served as justice of the peace. The Episcopal Church counts him a valued supporter. In 1860 he was united in marriage with Jane L. Alfred, of Harwinton, Conn., who died November 8, 1877, leaving three children: Herbert N., a real estate dealer of New Britain, Conn.; William A., also of New Britain, and Franklin B. Two other children born to this marriage—Frederick and Charles—died in infancy. Mr. Lockwood was married a second time, March 3, 1889, to Mrs. Mary L. Shaw Clapp. She was a daughter of Henry and Ann (Ely) Clapp. Mrs. Lockwood acquired her education in the Lee County Academy, Lee Center, Ill., later attending the Rockford Female Seminary, concluding with a course in Milton Academy, Massachusetts. After school she was engaged as a teacher of French and German in a private school of New York city until her marriage, May 29, 1867, to Egbert D. Shaw, of Lee Center, Ill. One child was born to this union, Alice Eva, who died February 16, 1880, at the age of seven years. Mrs. Lockwood was actively interested in numerous social organizations, being a charter member of the Charter Oak Chapter of Faribault of the Daughters of the American Revolution, having served as registrar of that society since her entry into it, and was official musician of the Fair Oaks Circle of the Grand Army of the Republic, having convention at Philadelphia. Mrs. Lockwood was also prominent in the Episcopal Church Guild, having been secretary six years. She died December 17, 1909, and is buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Faribault, Minn.

**Rev. Frank Arthur McElwain**, the warden of the Seabury Divinity School at Faribault, was born at Warsaw, Wyoming



county, New York, December 14, 1875. At an early age he came west with his parents, receiving his elementary education in the public schools of Corning, Ia., and of Brookfield, Mo., and at the high school of Middletown, Conn. Then entering Trinity College at Hartford, Conn., he remained until he received his degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1899, immediately thereafter enrolling in the Seabury Divinity School of Faribault, from which he was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Divinity in 1902, Trinity College conferring the degree of Master of Arts on him the same time. June 11, 1902, he was ordained a minister of the Episcopal Church, and February 6, 1903, was raised to the priesthood at Lebanon, Mo. During the next two years he followed the call of his profession in Neosho, Kansas City, Marshall and Springfield, all in Missouri. In 1905 he accepted the position offered him as instructor in the Old and New Testament at the Seabury Divinity School, which he held until January, 1907, when, at the death of Dr. Davis, he was elected to his present position as warden of the institution, still holding the chair as instructor in Old Testament. He is universally esteemed and respected by the students, as well as by his fellow townsmen, being a strong power for good in the community. The principles of the Republican party have his support, but in casting his ballot he places the man before the party. His fraternal affiliations are with the Phi Beta Kappa and Alpha Chi Rho fraternities. November 17, 1903, at Sedalia, Mo., he was married to Helen Demuth, daughter of Lieut.-Col. H. C. Demuth and Dora (Lamy) Demuth, of Sedalia. Mr. and Mrs. McElwain have one child, Frank Arthur, Jr., born March 12, 1908. James F. and Mary S. (Arthur) McElwain, parents of our subject, are natives of New York, the father being born in Wyoming county and the mother in Brooklyn. In 1879 they migrated west, locating at Fort Dodge, Ia., remaining two years, and then removing to Corning, Ia., where they remained nearly six years. They then came to Brookfield, Mo., where they are now residing. The father was a merchant all his life, but is now retired from active work.

**William Mee**, like many other of the ante-bellum settlers of Faribault, is a native of New York, born in Ausable Forks (Essex county), September 8, 1838. He received his education in his native town, worked on the farm and clerked in stores until November 25, 1861, when, lured by the stories of western prosperity then rife in the East, he came to Faribault. For some time he clerked in the general store of Gilmore & Brown, and on August 20, 1862, he enlisted in D. D. Loyd's company of citizen soldiers, which accompanied General Sibley on his expedition against the Sioux after the horrible massacre in 1862. In 1864,

in company with L. Jackson, Mr. Mee, under the firm name of Jackson & Mee, engaged in the mercantile business. After a time Thomas Mee purchased the Jackson interests and the firm became the Mee Bros. In 1867 a third interest was sold to Anton Kaus, and the company became Mee Brothers & Kaus. It is worthy of note that this company built the first brick front store building in Faribault, the date of erection being 1868. In 1877 the business was sold to J. F. Squires. He was the first station agent for the M. & St. L. Ry. when that road was first put through Faribault in 1882. At about this time he served as secretary for the Cannon Valley Agricultural & Mechanical Association for several years with much credit, the association under his administration enjoying a successful period of prosperity. In 1885 Mr. Mee went with the flour milling firm of F. A. & S. L. Bean as traveling salesman, in which position he remained until 1890, when he became the state sales agent for Illinois for the Northwestern Consolidated Milling Company, of Minneapolis, Minn., in which capacity he continued until failing health caused his retirement in 1906. On September 29, 1864, William Mee was married to Mary E. Gifford, eldest daughter of Ezra D. and Lydia A. Gifford, who came to Faribault in 1856 from Essex, N. Y. To this union have been born three sons—Harry B., William G. and George H.

**William Henry Rumpf, M. D.**, physician and surgeon of Faribault, was born in Dubuque, Ia., January 2, 1867, son of William Henry and Adele (Caesar) Rumpf, both natives of Oldenburg, Germany. The subject of this sketch received his common school education in the public schools of Dubuque, and then attended the Brooklyn Collegiate and Polytechnic Institute. From 1884 to 1886 he attended Yale University. From 1886 to 1891 he studied at the Universities of Berlin, at Freiburg and Kiel, Germany, receiving his degree of M. D. at Kiel in 1891. The following year was spent in post-graduate work in Berlin and Vienna. He first took up the practice of his profession in Chicago in 1892 and remained there ten years, coming to Faribault in 1902. While in Chicago he was connected with the Northwestern Medical School, the Post-Graduate School and the St. Luke's and Chicago hospitals. He is now physician for Shattuck School and lecturer at that institution on physiology and hygiene. He is also physician for St. Mary's Hall, and Faribault physician for the C., M. & St. P. Ry. Dr. Rumpf has allied himself with the Rice County, the Minnesota State and the American Medical Associations, the Chicago Gynecological Society and the Chicago Academy of Medicine. In the Masonic order he is a member of the Osman Shrine, the Faribault Commandery, Royal Arch and Blue Lodge. He is also a member of

the Royal Arcanum, the Modern Samaritans, the Elks, the Travelers' Club and the Golf Club. Dr. Rumpf was married April 24, 1894, to Ethel Gresty, born in Manchester, England, and to this union three sturdy sons have been born, the birthplace of all three being in Chicago. William Henry is aged fifteen; Walter Carl, thirteen, and Ernest Frederick, ten.

**Henry P. Sime**, an esteemed resident of Faribault, has the distinction of having been the last village clerk of Faribault, elected for two years in 1870, and the first city recorder under the new charter in 1872, holding the office for three years. He was also chief engineer of the Faribault fire department for fifteen years. In fraternal circles he is a prominent Mason and is one of the trustees of the Masonic building at Faribault. Mr. Sime was born in St. Andrews, New Brunswick, May 13, 1842. Early left an orphan, he went to live with his uncle, Dr. T. M. Sime, of Worcester, Mass., at the age of four years. After arriving at the age of ten years he started out in life working at anything he could get to do. He then went to Ogdensburg, New York, earning money by driving stage to attend the academy at Gouverneur, N. Y., one year. Then he started westward and in 1857 entered the employ of Robert Hanna & Co., wholesale merchants at Cleveland, Ohio, and remained about one year, after which he became assistant clerk on a Lake Superior line of steamboats. In 1860 he located at St. Anthony, Minn., and did various work until 1863, when he came to Faribault. For five years he was clerk of the historic old Barron House. After this, in 1868, he started work for the United States Express Company, with which he has since remained, being the oldest expressman, in point of continuous service, in the Northwest. From 1868 to 1882 he was agent at Faribault, but during the years 1869-70 he was also engaged in the machine business with H. C. Prescott, in addition to being express agent. In 1882 he became route agent for the same company on the road. In 1883 he resumed his former position in Faribault, and one year later became chief clerk to the general superintendent. From 1887 to 1890 he held the same position, with headquarters at St. Paul. In 1890, having demonstrated his worth and ability, he was made assistant superintendent of the northwestern division of the United States Express Company. In 1898 he again took up the agency at Faribault, and has since retained the position, his residence being a pleasant home at 614 Sixth street. Mr. Sime was married September 9, 1884, to Adelaide E. Crossett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. N. Crossett. To this union two children have been born, Malcolm, September 8, 1887, now of St. Paul, and Robert H., February 15, 1892, who still lives at home. The family faith is that of the Episcopal Church. The parents of

Henry P. Sime were Peter and Jane (Purvis) Sime, natives of Scotland. They located at St. Andrews, N. B., in 1840, and the father followed the water as a sea captain until his death, sailing in American waters under the United States flag. His wife died in 1842 and he passed to the great beyond four years later.

**Scott Neil Swisher**, city editor of the "Republican" at Faribault, was born in Parsons, W. Va., July 14, 1880, son of Silas Newton and Mary (Parsons) Swisher, both descended from well known West Virginian families. He attended the common schools of his native city and the West Virginia University at Morgantown, W. Va. He remained at home until seventeen years of age, was clerk and manager of a department in a book store for some time, and then became manager of the Swisher Theater, Morgantown, W. Va. Subsequently he was manager of the monthly "West Virginian," a state magazine. He afterward worked on the Morgantown "Daily News." Previous to this, while at school, he had mastered the printing trade. December, 1909, he assumed his present position. He is well liked in Faribault and aside from his membership in the Elks belongs to several literary, fraternal and theatrical organizations.

**Frank A. Skluzacek**, one of the popular young farmers of Rice county, was born in Wheatland township, where he still resides, March 31, 1885, son of Joseph and Katherine (Sticha) Skluzacek, prominent residents of this locality. He attended the public schools in Wheatland township and then took a course in the engineering department of the State Agricultural School. With this exception he has spent his life on the farm and now successfully conducts his father's estate, carrying on general farming in a scientific manner along the most modern lines.

**Edmund K. Clements**, for many years president of the Faribault Board of Education, was born in Napanee, Ontario, Canada, December 15, 1865, son of Timothy and Jane (Keyes) Clements. He received his earlier education in the common schools of Canada and after coming to Minnesota attended the Faribault high school and Shattuck school. He then took a professional course in the University of Michigan, graduating July 1, 1886, in dentistry as the president of his class. He then came to Faribault and since that date has practiced continuously at the corner of Second street and Central avenue, twenty years over R. J. Lieb's store, and four years at his present location in the Wheeler block across the street. Dr. Clements' greatest service to Faribault has been rendered as president of the Faribault Board of Education, in which capacity he has served continuously since 1896, with the exception of three years. During his term of office the McKinley, Washington and Lincoln schools



have been built and substantial improvements in the way of heating and sanitation have been made in the older buildings. The efficiency of the system has also greatly increased. From 1889 to 1895 Dr. Clements was president of the State Board of Dental Examiners. He has been a member of the Faribault Travelers' Club since its beginning and was its president two years. He is a Master Mason, belongs to Osmun Temple, St. Paul, and was commander of the Faribault Commandery two years. He is also a popular member of the Elks. The subject of this sketch was married June 20, 1892, to Mary Slocumb Wheeler, daughter of J. B. Wheeler, one of the pioneers of Faribault who located here in May, 1856. To this union two children have been born—Loraine and Jane. Sidney T. Clements was married on St. Valentine Day, 1865, to Sarah Jane Keyes, of West Brome, Eastern townships, Quebec, and practiced dentistry in Ontario for twenty-five years. He was active in church and school work and for several years taught school in the French language in various parts of Quebec. He came to Faribault in 1881.

**Frederick Upham Davis, M. D.**, physician of Faribault, was born in this city December 19, 1875, son of Rev. George H. Davis, D. D., late warden of the Seabury Divinity School, and Alice Tupper Davis, his wife. He attended the public schools and graduated from the Brainerd (Minn.) high school in 1893. He received his B. S. from the University of Minnesota in 1898, and his M. D. from the University of Minnesota in 1902. He practiced medicine at St. Clair, Minn., from 1902 to 1906, and in the latter year came to Faribault where he is now actively engaged in active practice. During the Spanish-American War Dr. Davis served as first sergeant of Company D., Fifteenth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and on May 31, 1907, he received his commission as captain of Company B, Second Infantry, Minnesota National Guard, and is still ably serving. He is surgeon general, Department of Minnesota, United Spanish-American War Veterans; secretary of the Rice County Medical Society; and secretary of the Staff Association of Evangelical St. Lucas Hospital, Faribault. He is a member of the American Medical Association, the Minnesota State Medical Association, the Rice County Medical Society, the Phi Kappa Psi and Nu Sigma Nu, college fraternities, the A. F. & A. M., the B. P. O. E., the M. W. A. and the I. O. F. Dr. Davis was married November 29, 1904, at Mankato, Minn., to Erna Marie Lossow.

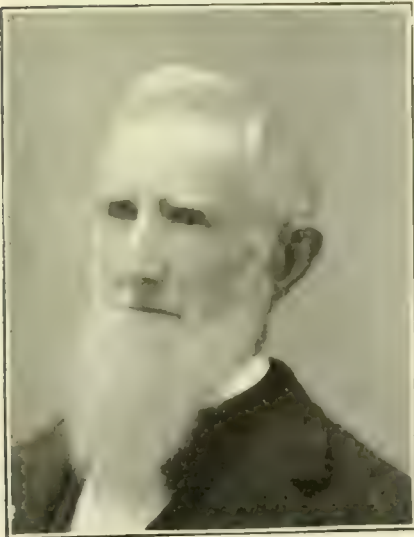
**George Clinton Tanner, D. D.**, was born January 21, 1834, in West Greenwich, R. I., son of Joseph and Amy Kinne (Gates) Tanner. He received his earlier education in the district schools of Voluntown, Conn., his later home, in the Plainfield Academy,



LUKE HULETT



JEAN BAPTISTE FARIBAULT



LEVI NUTTING



GEORGE C. TANNER, D.D.



Plainfield, Conn., and in Brown University, Providence, R. I., in which latter institution he took courses with special reference to teaching, and in the Seabury Divinity School. He received his M. A. degree from Brown University in 1857, married, and came to Minnesota the same year, opening the first graded school at Winona in November, 1857. He came to Faribault as headmaster of Seabury Grammar School in October, 1858; was ordained deacon in 1860, and priest in 1862. He continued as a member of the Bishop Seabury Mission until 1867, and then moved to Owatonna where he was rector of St. Paul's Church from 1867 to 1887. During this period he was superintendent of schools in Steele county from 1872 to 1887. From the latter year until 1909 he was director of study in Shattuck School, Faribault, and in 1909 became instructor in classics and liturgies in Seabury Divinity School from which institution he received the degree of D. D. in 1896. For many years he has been registrar of the Diocese of Minnesota. It is a fact worthy of note that 1910 completed fifty years of educational and ministerial work, all of which had been spent in Minnesota with the exception of a part of one year, from November, 1886, to June, 1887, when he served as chaplain and head master at Bethany College, Topeka, Kan. From 1860 to 1861 he was a member of the Winona Normal School Board; from 1896 to 1910 a trustee of St. Mary's Hall, and from 1896 to the present time a trustee of Breck School. He was elected a member of the Phi Beta Kappa Society of Brown University in 1857, and is a member of the Theta Delta Chi Fraternity of the same institution. He is also a prominent member of the Minnesota Territorial Pioneers. Dr. Tanner was married October 17, 1857, to Emma Campbell, of Voluntown, Conn., and to this union were born the following children: Frank Howard, of Yokohama, Japan; Mary Cornelia, deceased; Edwin Campbell, Samuel Seabury; Amy Eliza and George Welles. Dr. Tanner's book on "The Diocese of Minnesota" is an authoritative contribution to the ecclesiastical history of this state. Dr. Tanner's life work is written in the hearts of men and women, and no eulogy of the biographer could add to his fame or adequately express the loving regard and veneration in which he is held.

**Adam Weyer**, the well known wagon maker, was born in Germany January 28, 1839, son of Martin and Anna Marie Porten Weyer, both of German birth and ancestry. He came to America in 1847, and located in Kenosha, Wis., where he commenced to learn the wagon maker's and wheelwright trade at the age of eighteen. The following year he went to New Orleans where he engaged at his trade three years. He then removed to Chicago, and in 1866, came to Faribault where he opened a



wagon manufacturing shop under the name of Bieter & Weyer. In 1874 the present stone shop at the corner of Second avenue and Willow street was erected. Mr. Weyer is still actively engaged in business and his wagons and bob sleds have a wide sale throughout this part of the country, the demand far exceeding the supply. Mr. Weyer was married February 2, 1870, to Sybilla Roell, and to this union eight children have been born—Martin C., October 9, 1871; Anna, now deceased; Joseph John, February 6, 1876; Marie, December 7, 1878; Edward M., September 21, 1880; Angeline, deceased; Charles, January 30, 1884; Clara, January 24, 1889. Mr. Weyer has served several terms as alderman of the city, and is just retiring from thirty-five years faithful service as treasurer of St. Lawrence Church.

**Martin C. Weyer**, the leading jeweler of Faribault, has built up a large trade among a wide circle of well-satisfied customers and is well liked among an extended circle of friends. He is a native of Faribault, born October 9, 1871, son of Adam and Sybilla (Roell) Weyer. He received his education in the schools of Faribault and attended the Faribault high school, afterward taking a course at St. John's University. Then he worked in his father's shop three years and from 1890 to 1894 learned the jeweler's trade with F. Z. Sherwood. In 1895 he attended Parsons Horological Institute, at Peoria, Ill., and the following year went to Kentucky where he engaged in business two years. In 1897 he returned to Faribault and opened his present store. Mr. Weyer was married in Chicago June 20, 1900, to Harriett Elizabeth Smith, daughter of Charles and Julia (Sheridan) Smith of that city. Being of a sociable nature Mr. Weyer has allied himself with the Elks, the Faribault Commercial Club, the K. of C., and the M. W. A.

**Rev. Francis Thomas Bouska** was born in Spillville, Winneshek county, Iowa, March 9, 1876. His parents, John Bartholomew Bouska and Mary Cecilia Bouska, were born in Bohemia and spent the early part of their lives in that country farming. Soon after their marriage in 1870, they emigrated to the United States. Having no particular trade and not knowing the language of this country, the father was forced to follow the occupation of a laborer in order to support his family. This, together with sickness and misfortunes, kept the family in rather poor circumstances. However poor, the parents gave their children the best and most necessary inheritance in this country, i. e., a good education. Of the family two daughters became nuns of the Order of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, one son became a priest, and another son is now studying sacred theology at St. Paul's Seminary, St. Paul, Minn., with the intention of also becoming a priest. In 1880 the parents moved to St. Paul, Minn.,

where soon the young Francis T. Bouška attended first the public schools, then the parochial schools of St. Francis de Sales and St. Stanislaus and finally the Crostin High School. From there he went to St. Thomas' College, Merriam Park, where he completed the classical course in five years. After completing his classical course he went to St. Paul's Seminary where he studied philosophy and sacred theology for six years and at the end of this course of studies he was ordained a priest March 7, 1903. His first charge was the parish at Canby, Minn., where, after thirteen months of labor, his health became greatly impaired. From thence he was sent to St. Ann's parish at Le Sueur, Minn., to recuperate. After regaining his health somewhat he was sent to the Immaculate Conception Church, of Lonsdale, to become the first resident pastor of that parish. He arrived there September 8, 1905, and has been laboring five years in that place.

Patrick Albert Smith, M. D., one of the prominent physicians and surgeons of Faribault, was born in Papmeaville, Quebec, July 27, 1866, son of Josiah and Mary (O'Brien) Smith, well known residents of that locality. He received his education in the Canadian public schools, at the Ottawa University, Ottawa, Canada, at the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, Pa., and also in Vienna, Paris and London, in which three latter cities he took postgraduate work in the summer of 1910. During his practice in Faribault Dr. Smith has proved an ideal physician and enjoys the confidence and respect of the hundreds of families to whom he has ministered in the hours of illness and distress. He has been county physician of Rice county since 1904, was chairman of the Rice County Board of Health from 1907 to 1910, and is now a member of the advisory commission of the State Sanatorium for Consumptives at Walker, Minn. Being thoroughly ethical in his practice, Dr. Smith has allied himself with the State Medical Society and the American Medical Association, and has also been honored with membership in the Vienna branch of the A. M. A. Dr. Smith was married April 20, 1892, to Lilius H. Brady, and this union has been blessed with four children—Ewart, Ardath, Verrill and Lilius.

**George L. Smith**, a prominent citizen of Faribault, was one of the "pioneer babies" of Rice county, born in Forest township, September 27, 1857, son of Alexander and Julia A. Smith, the pioneers. He received a large part of his education at home with his mother and owes much to her tuition and training. He also attended the district schools. At the age of nineteen he started teaching school in the same school house which he had attended as a boy, teaching winters and farming summers. In 1879 he went to Warren, Marshall county, Minnesota, but in 1881 came back to the home farm, again teaching school and

farming until 1884 when he came to Faribault and entered into co-partnership with A. J. Bell in the farm machinery business one year. The following year he was village marshal at Dundas, but after that he again returned to the farm. He purchased the farm from the other heirs in 1888 and worked it until 1896 when he was elected register of deeds, serving until 1900, when he was succeeded by G. S. Whitney. For four years he served under W. K. Adams as deputy county auditor, and then defeated Judge James S. Hunter for judge of probate at the primaries, and M. F. Donahue at the polls, being re-elected in 1906 without opposition. He was defeated in 1908 by Judge Hunter. In 1907 he defeated James R. Smith for mayor, was elected in 1908 without opposition, defeated P. J. Gallagher in 1909, and was succeeded in 1910 by N. S. Erb. He is now serving as deputy county auditor with E. J. Kelley. In Forest township he served as justice of the peace as early as the age of twenty-one years. He was also township supervisor and clerk of his school district. Mr. Smith is a Republican in politics, and belongs to the I. O. O. F., the A. O. U. W., the B. P. O. E., the M. B. A., and the M. S. He was married March 17, 1884, to Olive Olson, of Ft. Washington, Wis., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Olson. To this union one son, Lucius Alexander, was born January 20, 1891. He is now studying law at the State University. Alexander Smith and Julia A. Foster, his wife, the pioneers, were born in Maine and Vermont, respectively, and came west in 1855. In 1856 they located in section 34, Forest township, and started farming on wild land which Alexander broke and improved. He was the first town clerk of Forest and was serving in that capacity at the time of his death, July 28, 1873. His wife is still living in Faribault at the age of eighty-four years, making her home with her son, George L. Smith.

**Alfred E. Haven**, for nearly four decades editor of the "Faribault Democrat," well fulfills the ideal of a weekly newspaper editor. He has taken a vital interest in all public matters, and his paper, preserved in neatly bound form, contains the complete history of the county from 1871 to the present time. The editorial utterances have been of weight and the destiny of the paper has been woven into the warp and woof of the destinies of the county. Mr. Haven was born in Guilford, Chenango county, New York, February 4, 1840. In 1858 he went to La Crosse, Wis., and was a pupil in the high school for two years. Then he studied law in the office of Judge Hugh Cameron, learning the art of printing at the same time. In April, 1861, he enlisted in Company B, Second Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served with the Army of the Potomac until 1864, receiving his discharge in July. In August of the same year he com-

menced work in the office of the "La Crosse Democrat," and was gradually promoted to the position of associate editor, having entire editorial charge during the last three years of his connection with that paper. In 1871 he came to Faribault, and with M. Stevens, purchased the "Faribault Leader," changing the name to the "Faribault Democrat," and sending out his first issue September 8, 1871. About a year later he purchased Mr. Stevens' interest and has since conducted the paper himself. He served as a member of the Faribault school board sixteen years, was county superintendent of schools four years, Faribault postmaster from 1894 to 1899, trustee of Faribault public library since its organization and its present secretary, commander of Michael Cook Post, G. A. R., two terms; member of board of trustees, Minnesota Soldiers' Home, since 1907; vestryman and warden of the Parish of the Good Shepherd eighteen years; president Faribault Board of Trade two years. He has taken an active interest in Masonry, has served as eminent commander of Faribault Commandery, No. 8, Knights Templar; has been master of Faribault Lodge, No. 9, A. F. & A. M., and for fourteen years was high priest of Tyrian Royal Arch Chapter, No. 6. Mr. Haven was married November 13, 1877, to Mary A. Meeker, who is prominent in club, church and philanthropic circles. To this union have been born the following children: Reide M. Haven and Mary Alfreda Haven (Mrs. Andrew B. Eddy, of Providence, R. I.).

**Hon. Rodney A. Mott**, one of the most distinguished figures in Rice county history, was born in Warsaw, N. Y., December 6, 1825. At the age of nine years he was taken by his mother to Chicago, his father having died at sea before his memory. He attended Baker Academy, in northern Illinois, and Knox College, in Galesburg, until 1848, supporting himself by teaching and at the same time completing his literary and law studies, taking the latter in the office of James H. Collins in Chicago. In 1850 he went overland to California, and returned by the Isthmus of Panama in the summer of 1852. He was married in October, 1852, to Mary Ripley, daughter of Rev. David Ripley, of Pomfret, Conn. Soon after Mr. Mott's return from California he started a school known as Crete Academy for training teachers, remaining in it for several years. In the spring of 1856 he came to Faribault and began his long and honorable career here as a teacher in the public schools. He was editor of the old "Rice County Herald," and later became its proprietor, changing the name to the "Faribault Herald." This is the paper that still exists as the "Faribault Republican." He left this enterprise in 1858 and immediately started in the practice of law, was county attorney several terms, county superintendent a number of years, served



in the state legislature, was judge of probate ten years, and has held many other positions of public trust and honor. He helped select the site for the Bishop Seabury Mission, and for forty years was secretary and director of the state institutions, being a prime mover in their location and organization here. Mott Hall, the stately structure at the Minnesota School for the Deaf, one of the prominent features of the Faribault landscape, is named in his honor. He and his family have taken more than an ordinary interest in literary and educational pursuits, and their influence on the community has been far reaching. Mr. Mott has been superintendent of the State Sunday School Association; president of the Association of Charities and Corrections, and superintendent of the Congregational Sunday school for a long term of years. Mary Ripley was the daughter of Rev. David Ripley, and was born at Pomfret, Conn., in 1825. She was educated at Geneseo, Ill., and married Mr. Mott, August 16, 1852, and came with him to Faribault in 1856. Six children were born to them, all in Faribault, except one son who died in childhood, as follows: Millie, who was Prof. W. M. West's first wife; Mary E., Alice J., Christie and Louise. Only Alice J. and Louise are living. The Mott home has been one of many natural sorrows; but they have all been met with quiet resignation, and the brighter, happier side of life is always turned towards both stranger and friend.

**Charles Augustus Wheaton**, for many years deceased, was for a quarter of a century one of the sturdy figures of Rice county. One of that noble band of leaders who started the anti-slavery movement in New York and New England, he lived to see the black men freed and the principles of equality and justice which he had fostered so many years at great personal sacrifice, triumphant. In Northfield his editorial pen was ever at the disposal of any good cause, and he was a leader in all progressive movements. Placing the love of his country first, he faithfully served the state, the county and the city, and his death, March 13, 1882, was a severe loss to the community. The following biography, published shortly before his death, sums up his career and work. "Charles A. Wheaton was born July 1, 1809, in Amenia, Dutchess county, New York. His parents moved to Pompey Hill, Onondaga county, when he was but six months old. He received his education at Pompey Academy, which was a leading institution of learning in that part of the country. At the age of twenty-five years he married Ellen, eldest daughter of Victory Birdseye, a prominent lawyer and public servant in western New York. Early in his career he espoused the anti-slavery cause, and was associated intimately with Garret Smith, Beriah Smith, William Lloyd Garrison, and others. He was also active



C. A. WHEATON



in temperance reform, and was for several years identified with the educational interests of Syracuse. He was the organizer of the First Congregational Church in that city, this church being started by anti-slavery people who had formerly been members of the Pro-Slavery Presbyterian Church there. In the late fifties many misfortunes befell him. He lost his wife, financial reverses came, and a railroad in the southern states in which he was heavily interested proved a failure. In 1860, through the influence of his old friend, John W. North, he left his old home and sought a new one in the state of Minnesota. In 1861 he married Martha Wagner, a daughter of the late Thomas Archibald, of Dundas, Minn., and started in life with new courage. His attention was first turned toward milling, but later he was engaged in editing the 'Rice County Journal,' and was engaged in that occupation at the time of his death, having taken C. H. Pierce as an associate in the business." His funeral services were held at the Congregational Church in Northfield, March 17, 1882, and all the business houses were closed in honor of his memory.

**Cassius M. Buck**, president of the Citizens' National Bank of Faribault and one of Faribault's leading and progressive citizens, was born near Rockford, in Hennepin county, Minnesota, June 19, 1859. His education was received in the public schools of Howard Lake, Minn., after which he was engaged in the hardware business at Howard Lake for a period of ten years, from 1882 to 1892. During this time he became interested in banking, purchasing in 1885 the Bank of Howard Lake, a private bank which he organized as a state bank in 1897, with himself as president. In 1889 he organized a bank at Dassel, Minn., acting as president, and in 1893 he launched a state bank at Annandale, Minn., also officiating as president. During the fall of 1895 he came to Faribault, assisting in the organization of the Security Bank of this place and acting as cashier until the fall of 1905, when he disposed of his interests and retired from the bank. Two years later, in the fall of 1907, together with friends, he acquired a large majority of the stock in the Citizens' National Bank of Faribault and was elected to his present position as president, having met with the signal success in this capacity which has attended him in all his enterprises. In politics he is very prominent, being a staunch Republican. He served as a member of the state senate from 1903 to 1906 inclusive, declining a second nomination. He was a delegate to the National Republican Convention from the third congressional district and assisted in the nomination of William H. Taft, afterwards serving as a member of the notification committee of Minnesota which notified President Taft of his nomination. May 9, 1894, at Salem,



Ohio, he was married to Sarah E. Tolerton, of Salem. They have one child, William James, born February 14, 1899. The Congregational Church claims their support. William P. and Margaret (Cramer) Buck, parents of our subject, were married in Ohio where the father was engaged in teaching school. In 1854, they came to Rockford, Minn., Mr. Buck continuing as a teacher for the next four years previous to their removal to Carver county where he operated a hotel at Watertown until the outbreak of the war. He then enlisted in the Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, serving throughout the entire war, and being mustered out with his company at Fort Snelling, July 25, 1865. Shortly afterward he died from a fever which he contracted in the army. The mother is still living at Howard Lake, Minn.

**Captain Duren F. Kelley**, one of the distinguished citizens of Northfield, was born in Newport, N. H., November 16, 1839, son of Franklin and Temperance (Dwinnel) Kelley, the pioneers. He attended the public schools in Newport and came to Northfield with his parents in 1855 as a boy of fifteen years, afterward attending the Northfield schools and also the old Hamline University at Red Wing. In August, 1862, he enlisted in the Seventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, marched to the relief of Ft. Ridgely against the Indians, participated in the battle of Wood Lake, September 23, the capture of Red Iron's camp a few days later and the relief of his white captives, was with General Sibley's expedition against Sioux to the Missouri in 1863, engaged in several battles with the Indians, went south with the regiment in September and was appointed A. A. Q. M. and A. C. S., and served at Morganzie, Port Hudson and Baton Rouge, department of the Gulf. Captain Kelley was mustered out in the winter of 1867, after a continuous service of four years and a half. After the war, Captain Kelley came back to Northfield and took up farming. Later he started manufacturing and dealing in farm implements. In 1890 he started the manufacture of fencing, wire and wood, under the firm name of the Northfield Fence Works. The sign is still hanging over the works on the west side of Northfield, but since 1902, when Captain Kelley sold out to Reilly & Lathrop, he has not been in active business. In 1880 Mr. Kelley had charge of taking the government census. In 1896 and again in 1902 he was elected to the state legislature. He was a member of the board of education six years, served as city assessor several years and is now special municipal judge. He has been commander of the J. L. Haywood Post, No. 83, several times, and is now serving on the staff of National Commander Van Sant. The subject of this sketch was married February 2, 1863, to Emma I. Rounce, daughter of Rev. J. S. Rounce, the first Congregational clergyman in Northfield. To





J. C. COUPER

this union have been born the following children: Eva Isabela, born at Baton Rouge, La., October 26, 1866; Edna, born February 20, 1873, died September 20, 1873; Walter F., born July 26, 1874, died September 6, 1874; Duren F., born August 22, 1881, died November 18, 1881; Candes L., born January 26, 1883; F. Raymond, born April 29, 1885. The living children are all married. Franklin Kelley, the pioneer, and Temperance Dwinell, his wife, were both born in Newport, N. H., and came to Northfield in April, 1855. Franklin Kelley was county commissioner several times and was very prominent in the early days. He was also prominent in the Congregational Church. The Kelleys are direct descendants of John Kelley who settled in Newberryport, Mass., in 1635, D. F. Kelley being the eighth in direct descent from this colonial hero.

**John C. Couper** is one of the county's venerable and distinguished citizens, one of those who may well be described as ripe in years and wisdom. He still retains the vigor of a much younger man, and still exerts, as he always has, an important influence for good in the community. He was born Jan. 24, 1830, at Morristown, N. Y., and was educated in the common schools and in Ogdensburg Academy. He taught school several terms, and in 1852 went to Albion, Michigan. In 1852, he crossed the western plains, with a wagon train to California. In September, 1854, he returned home via Lake Nicaragua and New York City. He was married Jan. 1, 1855, to Harriet Johnson, and together they came to Minnesota, locating in Sciota, Dakota county. In 1862 he was sent to the state legislature. During the Civil War he enlisted in Company F, Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, serving as sergeant and orderly three years until the close of the war, two years in the Indian campaign in Minnesota and the Dakotas, and one year in the South in Tennessee and North Carolina. In 1866 he came to Northfield, where he has since made his home. March 1, 1886, he engaged in the mercantile business in the firm of J. C. and F. J. Couper and continued in business until Nov. 5, 1908. He has now retired from active business and is enjoying the crowning fruits of a well spent life. He has been a justice of the peace many years, has been town supervisor, and for eleven years served with justice and distinction as judge of the municipal court of Northfield. He is a charter member, past commander and the present chaplain of the J. L. Heywood Post, G. A. R., and past junior commander of the Department of Minnesota. He was for several years a trustee of the Congregational society at Northfield. He has also served as president of the Northfield Fair Association. In the family were six children: Dr. Joseph E. Couper, of Blue Earth, Minn., died in 1906; Charles S. lives in Rochester. Fen-



nimore J. lives in Alberta, Canada. Mrs. Evaline C. Miller lives in Northfield; Prof. George B. Couper lives in Cherryville, Oregon. Miss Hattie lives at home.

Judge Couper's parents came from South Shields, England, in 1817, and settled in the wilds of northern New York. The father was a prominent man, and held many positions of public trust and honor.

**James Hunter**, veteran of the Civil War, and for many years an honored official of Rice county, was born in Stormont county, Canada, May 7, 1841, son of William W. and Margaret (Ferguson) Hunter. He received his early education in the common and high schools of Perth, Lanark county, Canada, and June 1, 1861, came to Minnesota, in which state he has since resided with the exception of one year in the army. Feb. 15, 1862, he enlisted in the Second Minnesota Battery, Light Artillery, and served until Feb. 16, 1863, and was wounded Oct. 8, 1862, at Perryville, Kentucky. He organized Company B, Second Regiment, M. N. G., Aug. 15, 1877, was elected captain and served until August, 1885. He was sheriff of the county from 1866 to 1872; city justice of Faribault 1877 to 1886; register of deeds, 1887 to 1897; deputy auditor, 1898; judge of probate, 1899 to 1905 and 1909 to the present time. He belongs to the Commercial Club, the Elks, the Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias. Judge Hunter was married April 25, 1866, to Elizabeth F. Weatherston.

The parents of James Hunter came from Dumfrieshire, Scotland, to Canada, the father in 1818 and the mother in 1823. The father died in 1855 and the mother in 1867.

**Harry E. Whitney**, who has been a professor at Shattuck school since 1874, was born in Fort Covington, Franklin county, New York, son of Charles Marsh Whitney and his wife, Delia Minerva Safford. He was educated in the common schools of La Crosse, Wis., in 1866, and entered Shattuck school, graduating in 1871 as valedictorian of its first graduating class. In 1874 he graduated from the classical course at Trinity College, Hartford, Conn., with the degree of A. B., receiving his honorary master's degree four years later. Since then his life has been devoted to the teaching and the study of languages. Since 1874 he has been professor of Latin and German at Shattuck school, and was head master from 1902 to 1905. For three years, in his younger days, Mr. Whitney was adjutant of the school battalion under Major A. E. Latimer, U. S. A. He also has the distinction of having served on the revised charter commission for the city of Faribault. At college, Mr. Whitney was honored with membership in the Psi Upsilon and the Phi Beta Kappa. He is a thirty-third degree Mason, and is a Past Grand Commander,



PROF. H. J. WHITTESAY



Knights Templar, of the state of Minnesota. He is a Mystic Shriner and one of the two Faribault members of the Military Order of Constantine. He also belongs to the Sons of the Revolution, the Society of Colonial Wars, the Faribault Commercial club and the Knights of Pythias. Mr. Whitney has made a hobby of farming, and devotes every summer to that pursuit. He was married at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Aug. 3, 1881, to Mary Van Vliet, and to this union has been born one daughter, Mary. Mrs. Whitney has been organist and musical director at Shattuck school for thirty years.

The Whitneys trace their ancestors through two lines to William the Conqueror, and Turstan de Fleming, who fought with Richard Coeur de Lion; to Rev. Henry Dunster, first president of Harvard College; Governor Thomas Dudley, of the Massachusetts colony, and to Edward Winslow, of Plymouth colony. The Safford line is traced to Stephen Hopkins, of Plymouth; Eurastus Safford and other patriots engaged in the early development of colonial and Revolutionary days.

**A. W. McKinstry**, one of the leading citizens of Faribault, has the most unusual record of having been sixty-six years in the printing business and fifty-nine years in editorial service. His clean, conservative, yet consistently progressive policy in editing the Faribault Republican, has been an important feature in the growth and development of Faribault and Rice county. Mr. McKinstry was born of Scotch-Irish and English ancestry, in Chicopee, Hampden county, Mass., March 19, 1828. His maternal grandfather served in the War of the Revolution. He received his education in the common schools, which he attended in the winter, and worked on the farm in the summer until reaching the age of sixteen years. He subsequently was a pupil in the Fredonia Academy, one term. In 1844 he secured a position in the office of his brother, who published the Fredonia Censor, at Fredonia, Chautauqua county, New York. After serving four years he worked for a time as journeyman in eastern cities, and then formed a co-partnership with his brother in the publication of the Censor. Sept. 3, 1857, he married Ellen E. Putnam. To this union were born two children, Grace E. and Linn H. In 1865, Mr. McKinstry disposed of his interest in the Fredonia Censor, and came to Faribault. He purchased the Central Republican from Orville Brown, and issued his first number Dec. 27, 1868, and two years later changed the name to the Faribault Republican. He served in the state legislature as a representative, was second president of the Minnesota Horticultural society, for some time was a director of the First National Bank, and for seventeen years secretary and treasurer of Faribault Gas Light company.



**Fred B. Hill**, professor of Biblical literature at Carleton College, Northfield, was born in Red Wing, Minn., May 15, 1876, son of Edwin Frederick Hill, and Grace Jeanette Hill, his wife, the pioneers, the former of whom, born in Nashua, N. H., May 19, 1848, is still living, and the latter of whom, born in New York City, Sept. 10, 1851, died at Morris, Minn., June 18, 1903. Fred B. received his boyhood education in the Minnesota public schools, graduating from the Morris high school in 1895. In 1900 he received his B. L. from Carleton College. He received his B. D. in 1903 from the Hartford Theological Seminary, and the same year was ordained to the Congregational ministry. The year 1905-1906 was spent in a tour around the world. In 1906-1907 he took a post-graduate course in the Hartford Seminary, and has since been engaged in his present profession. Prof. Hill was married June 14, 1905, to Deborah Wilcox Sayles, daughter of the late Frederic Clark Sayles and Deborah Cook Sayles, of Pawtucket, R. I.

**Herman Roe**, the talented editor of the Northfield News, started his newspaper editorial career in June, 1910, after two years as principal of the high school at Anoka, previous to which time he was one of the popular students at St. Olaf's college. Mr. Roe has that energy and enterprise so necessary in a newspaper man, and his gifted pen is placing him high among the weekly newspaper editors of the state. The subject of this sketch was born in Eau Claire, Wis., June 9, 1886, son of L. I. Roe, a leading citizen of Stanley, Wis., where he has been mayor for several terms. Herman, as he was then called by his friends, was taken to Stanley at an early age, and attended the schools there, later coming to Northfield and entering St. Olaf's college, where he graduated in 1908 with the degree of B. S. He was president of the college band, and accompanied it on its famous trip to the old country in the summer of 1906. He won the Henry Nelson Talla scholarship, and distinguished himself in scholarship, in oratory, in debating, in music, and in literature, occupying a number of editorial positions, including a place on the Viking staff. During the last two years of his college career he worked with Mr. Heatwole on the Northfield News, and in June, 1910, was placed in editorial charge. Mr. Roe was married Aug. 8, 1909, to Anna Kirkeberg, a graduate of the musical course at St. Olaf's college.

**Math R. Vikla**, the popular principal of the Wheatland village schools, was born in Wheatland township, Dec. 31, 1884, a son of Martin and Eva Vikla, whose life history is given elsewhere in this volume. His early education was acquired in the district schools, completing with a course in the state normal school at Mankato. After school he at once entered upon his

life profession of teaching, and at present is filling the position of principal of the Wheatland schools, giving entire satisfaction to all concerned. He taught school in several districts, mostly located northeast of Veseli, where many a young man and woman today proudly claim to have had him for a teacher that remains in their memory. He is also a musician, being a member of the "The Twentieth Century Band" of Veseli. He is well known as a beekeeper among his people, having been engaged in that line since he was a boy of fifteen. He is of a mechanical trend of mind. For the last three years he devoted his spare time to inventions. He owns a patent at present for a safety cockeye and has two other inventions under construction. In politics he is a loyal friend of the Democratic party. He is now serving the community as a town constable.

**John P. Vikla** was born in Wheatland township, Feb. 9, 1871. His education was acquired in the district schools, afterwards spending a year in the Montgomery schools, and attending several terms of the teachers' training schools. Leaving school, he worked on his father's farm until 1895, when he procured a position as teacher in the rural schools of Wheatland. In 1900, he discontinued teaching, devoting his entire time for the next four years to selling nursery stock, and then conducted a confectionery store at Silver Lake, Minn. Returning to Lonsdale, he re-entered the nursery business for a short period as a salesman, traveling through South Dakota and Nebraska. His next venture was as a photographer at Scotland, S. Dak., which he operated until his return to Lonsdale in 1906, when he opened his present studio. Martin and Eva Vikla, parents of our subject, are natives of Bohemia. They came to Minnesota about 1871, settling in Wheatland township. In 1905 he retired from active work, himself and wife now living with their eldest son.

**Martin G. Vikla** was born in Wheatland township July 15, 1880. Having completed the common school in the Veseli public school, he entered the State Normal School at Mankato, financed by his brother, John P. There he prepared for his life profession, that of teaching. In fall of 1900 he taught his first school in Wells township, the so-called Trebon school. It was during this school year that he realized that the education of our children is not carried on along proper lines, and that as a consequence the children suffer all through life for lack of proper preparation. Up to this time he had the idea that he was the only one of the many to suffer such a fate. That realization opened up for him a grand field to work in. From that time on he has been an educational reformer. The following year, 1901, he went to school to prepare especially for his work of reforming

tion. The following year he re-entered the field as teacher in the public school. During the following years he attended school during summer and taught school during the school year, traveling all through the community within a radius of fifteen miles, staying one year in each school giving special attention to pointing out to the pupils what education means or ought to mean. Besides he gave one public address in each school for the benefit of the parents, showing them along what lines they should carry on the education of their children. He characterizes education as a development of the physical, mental and moral powers of the pupils. He insists that teachers must use common sense and not follow blindly the footsteps of their predecessors. He has been upheld and encouraged in his work by his two brothers, Math R. and Albert H., who likewise were in the field working in somewhat milder form. Each one profiting from the experiences of the other two, they soon became the most distinguished educators of the community. And the name Vikla Brothers has come to be pronounced with the greatest of reverence.

As a reformer it is only natural that he should be allied with the spelling reformers and also with Esperantists. In religion he advocates less forms—ceremonies and dogmas—and more spirituality—more Christian life. He puts more stress on how to live here than how to prepare for the hereafter. To him the life we live here is the only preparation for the other. Some who are not intimately acquainted with him think him an atheist. He is a reformer of methods rather than of principles. He believes in honesty above all things and personally adheres to whatever is noble and pure. His word is as good as his bond.

It might be added that in 1905 he entered into business with his two brothers, establishing a hardware store at Lonsdale. They soon found out that there is more of educators than of business men in them, consequently sold out the entire establishment to J. J. Jakes two months after opening same. He now lives with his brother, Math. R., on a farm in section 21, of which he is a joint owner since 1906. At present he fills the position of principal of the Veseli school. In politics he is a Republican and has been the town justice for the last four years.

**Albert H. Vikla** was born in Wheatland township in 1886, being the youngest of the family of Martin and Eva Vikla. He obtained his education in the district school, completing the course in the Montgomery graded school. Later on he attended the State Normal School at Mankato. Like three of his older brothers he selected teaching for his occupation. He taught for three years in the Summit school, with chances for another term. In 1907 he married Miss Annie Flicek of this township. He accepted a position in the New Prague Flour Milling Co., as

bookkeeper, and so declined to teach the Summit school during 1908-1909. In 1910 he secured the enumeratorship for Lanesburg township, and so gave up his position at the mill. He operated the farm with his brothers, Math. R. and Martin G., during the same summer, and re-entered the teachers' field, for which he has a natural inclination. He is at present teacher in the Leo Wrabek district. He resides in New Prague, where he has a fine home established, but he delights in visiting his farm as often as possible. He has three children: Edmund, Eugene and Hedwiga. He is a Democrat in politics.

**Wencl J. Vikla**, a well known farmer of Wheatland township, Rice county, was born in Bohemia, September 2, 1867. While in his infancy he came to this country with his parents, Martin and Eva Vikla, whose sketches also appear in this work. After receiving his education in the district schools of Wheatland township, he assisted his father in the operation of the home farm until 1902, when he became owner of his present farm of eighty acres, on which he is still engaged in general farming. The Republican party claims his allegiance in affairs of politics.

**M. M. Shields**, the well known and successful editor of the "Faribault Pilot," was born in Whitewater, Wis., December 16, 1854, son of Charles and Catherine (Muldown) Shields. In 1856 the family moved to Richland county, in the same state, and there the subject of this sketch received his earlier education, later attending the Grove Lake Academy in Sauk Center, Minn. Thus equipped, he taught school in Richland and Vernon counties, Wisconsin, from 1873 to 1879, and in April of the latter year came to Shieldsville. In 1879-80 he taught school in Scott county; in 1880-81 he was principal of the school at Belle Plain and in 1881-82 he occupied a similar position in the Jordan schools. In 1882-84 he was county superintendent of schools in Scott county, was re-elected for the term of 1884-86, and for the term of 1886-88, but resigned in the latter year. During this period he was city justice in Jordan from 1883 to 1885; was admitted to the bar in Shakopee in 1885, was city attorney of Jordan from 1885 to 1888, and held other minor offices. He came to Faribault in 1888, and with C. J. O'Brien founded the "Faribault Pilot." Mr. O'Brien dropped out one year later. In 1894-98, Mr. Shields was deputy collector of internal revenue. In 1897-99 he was a member of the Faribault library board. A Democrat in politics, he is now a member of the State Central Committee, and in 1898 was a candidate for presidential elector on the Democratic ticket. Mr. Shields is a member of several fraternal organizations and is well liked in the community.

**Charles Shields**, now deceased, was born in Rahara, county Roscommon, Ireland, November 10, 1812. He was united in



marriage, in 1838, to Catherine Muldown, who died May 18, 1882. In 1839 the young couple came to the United States, and from New York, Charles went directly to Pittsfield, Mass., where he remained for a short time, going from there to Providence, R. I., where for the next four years he worked in the tanning business. He came west in 1844, and purchased a farm in Waukesha county, Wisconsin, where he lived until 1856, when he removed to Richland county, Wisconsin, living on a farm until 1883, when he came with his sons, P. H. and John B. Shields, to Minnesota, and settled in Shieldsville. In 1893 he came to Faribault and lived with his daughters, Mary and Kate Shields, until his death. Mr. Shields was a public-spirited citizen and always took an active interest in politics. He was survived by three daughters: P. H. and John, of the town of Wells; M. M., Mary and Kate, of Faribault; T. C. Shields and Mrs. M. A. Walsh, of Richland county, Wisconsin.

**Thomas Shields**, one of the early settlers of the town of Shieldsville, died June 1, 1893, at the age of seventy-seven years, after a long and useful life. He was a native of the parish of Rahara, County Roscommon, Ireland, born May 21, 1816. He emigrated to the United States in 1836 and landed in New York. After working a short time in that state he went to Berkshire county, Massachusetts, where he learned the trade of tanner and currier. In 1840 he removed to Providence, R. I., and in 1843 came west and purchased a farm in Waukesha county, Wisconsin. He soon grew tired of western life, and after a residence of two years on a farm he returned to Providence, where he was employed by one of the leading tanning firms of that city to go to Georgia and manage a branch of their business located in that state. He remained in Georgia until 1849, when he returned to Massachusetts, where, in 1850, he married Ellen Renehan. He came west again in 1854 and lived on his farm in Waukesha county, Wisconsin, for nearly two years. He sold his farm, and after a short residence at Whitewater, Wis., he came to Minnesota in the fall of 1856 and located at Shieldsville, where he kept a store for a short time. He afterward erected a building in which he kept a hotel until he came to Faribault in 1871. He resided in Faribault two years, and during that time kept a hotel on Third street in the rear of the Fleckenstein block. He next moved to South Stillwater, where he resided until the fall of 1878, when he again returned to Rice county and settled on his farm three miles southwest of the village of Shieldsville, living there until his death.

**Lucian W. Chaney** first attended Carleton as a student in the fall of 1874, entering the collegiate department and graduating in 1878 as Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science. He

received the degree of Master of Science in 1883. He was assistant teacher of science for the year 1882-3, promoted to teacher of biology and geology the following year, and elected professor of biology and geology in 1884. He held this professorship until 1908, when he retired on the Carnegie foundation. He was the first athletic director at Carleton and developed and organized this line of activities at Carleton so thoroughly that more than the usual share of successes came to the college in the inter-collegiate sports. He also originated the high school athletic contests, which take place yearly on the college campus. He was always a most loyal and ardent worker for the college's best interests. Since retiring from teaching he has held a special and prominent position in the department of Commerce and Labor at Washington, D. C. His father was a member of the board of trustees of Carleton College from 1876 to 1897.

**George M. Phillips** is one of the leading citizens of Northfield, and has been cashier of the First National Bank since its organization. A copy of the "Northfield News," dedicated to him several years ago, said: "No honest charity has ever been overlooked by Mr. Phillips, and no matter how much occupied his time may be, he always has a moment to spare to listen to the story of the deserving or the undeserving. For the former no kindness or help is too great, and for the latter an uplifting hand and beneficial word are always given. As a guiding hand in the public works of the city, his has been constantly in the foreground, and he has done more than any other man in agitating public improvements and substantially assisting them. He is a truly good and generous citizen."

**Edward Milton Leach** was born in Waitsfield, Vt., April 22, 1830, and received his education in the common schools. At the age of twenty-one years, in 1851, he went to Woodstock, Ill., where he remained until 1854, when he came to Faribault and entered the store of Tower Brothers as clerk. In 1860 he went to Colorado, but returned to Faribault in 1864. A year later he was married to Caroline Stowell at Woodstock, Ill., and in that year he purchased an interest with L. C. Ingram in the furniture and organ manufacturing business. Later the manufacture of furniture and musical instruments was dropped and the manufacture of sash, doors and blinds taken up. Later lumbering and milling became a part of the business. Mr. Ingram's interest was purchased in 1880 by Mr. Leach, who in 1887 sustained a severe loss by fire. He met this misfortune with courage, and a new and larger mill succeeded the old one, and later his sons entered into the business, the business becoming solid and prosperous. Mr. Leach was survived by four sons and three daughters: Mrs. Joseph Weber, H. P. Leach, A. R. Leach, Ralph W.

Leach, Mrs. L. D. Harkins, Mrs. M. N. Soper and Walter A. Leach. Mrs. Leach died December 24, 1900. Mr. Leach was a power in the community in which he lived. Possessed of a kindly and generous personality, he made many friends, while his honesty and integrity won the regard and admiration of those with whom he had dealings during his long and successful business career. He died September 18, 1907.

**Benjamin E. Darby**, editor and proprietor of the "People's Press," Owatonna, was born February 18, 1848, at St. Eleanors, Prince Edward Island. At the age of two years his parents removed with him to their farm in Abram's Village, Egmont Bay. Here he lived until he was sixteen years old, attending the district school and doing much hard work. He evinced good mathematical ability and had acquired an excellent knowledge of the French language, when he entered the grammar school at the county seat, remaining there two years, studying algebra, Latin, Greek, geometry, land surveying and navigation. He afterward attended and graduated from the normal school in Charlottetown and the Prince of Wales College in the same city. He followed the profession of teacher in that province until August, 1871, when he came to Minnesota. In 1871 and 1872 he was principal of the public school at Zumbrota, Goodhue county; in 1872 and 1873, principal of the public school at Pine Island, in the same county, and in 1873 and 1874, principal of the public school at Kasson, Dodge county. Mr. Darby has taken an active interest in Owatonna affairs, and his services on various boards have been highly valued. As secretary of the library and city hospital board, and of the fire department, he systematized the methods of keeping the records, and set a standard of excellence that has been maintained to the present day. He was a director and secretary of the Owatonna Public Library six years; director of the Owatonna City Hospital several years and secretary three years; a member of the city charter commission in 1905-06; secretary of the Owatonna fire department many terms, and a member of the board of education. He is also a Mason. Mr. Darby was married in August, 1874, to Kate Annie Barnard, and this union has been blessed with five children: George Franklin, born May 22, 1875; Harry Barnard, born October 15, 1876; Benjamin Edward, born March 28, 1880, and died July 1, 1881, buried in Forest Hill cemetery; Fannie Amelia, born November 22, 1883, and died November 21, 1887, buried in Forest Hill cemetery; and William Howard, born March 20, 1888.

**George F. Darby**, who is associated with his father in editing the "People's Press," Owatonna, was born in Owatonna, May 22, 1875, son of Benjamin E. and Kate Annie (Barnard) Darby.

He received his education in the public schools and graduated from the Owatonna high school in 1894, having taken the Latin Scientific course. He learned the trade of printer in his father's office, later was taken on the editorial staff, and mastered the newspaper business thoroughly. Mr. Darby has taken an active interest in public affairs, belongs to a number of local organizations, and is one of the prominent young men of the city, having also an extensive acquaintance throughout the county. He was married June 2, 1906, to Eleanor Francis, of Detroit, Mich., and to this union has been born one daughter, Catherine Barnard, April 13, 1908.

**Harry B. Darby**, foreman of the printing and publishing department of the "People's Press," Owatonna, was born in Owatonna, October 15, 1876, son of Benjamin and Kate Annie (Barnard) Darby. After taking the usual course in the common grades, he graduated from Pillsbury Academy at Owatonna in 1898. He learned the publishing and printing business in his father's office, and has been foreman of the establishment for several years, being a thorough master of the printer's art, and producing work of the highest degree of excellence. Mr. Darby is well liked among a wide circle of friends. He was married September 19, 1905, to Mary K. Hockemeyer, and to this union have been born two children: Ethel Margaret, born September 11, 1906, and Benjamin Edwin, born May 5, 1908.

**William Howard Darby**, manager of the Bucksen Typesetting Company, of Owatonna, was born in Owatonna, March 20, 1888, son of Benjamin E. and Kate Annie (Barnard) Darby. He attended the public schools and graduated in the Latin-Scientific course from Owatonna high school in 1908. He is a good machinist and bookkeeper, and is one of the popular young men of the city.

**Stephen S. Severson**, one of the enterprising business and newspaper men of Steele county, was born in Blooming Prairie, in which village he still resides, November 9, 1884, son of Sever O. and Elen Bergetta (Olson) Severson. He was educated in the common and high schools of his native village, and clerked several years in the West Hotel. In 1898 he took up printing with the Times Printing Company, publishers of the Blooming Prairie "Times," and is still with the company, acting in the capacity of manager. He is also engaged in the insurance business and has attained success unusual for a young man of his age. Mr. Severson is a Mason, and a member of the M. W. A., the Equitable Fraternal Union and the Sons of Norway. He is secretary of the Equitable Fraternal Union, and has held offices in the M. W. A.

Sever O. Severson was born in Voss, Norway, in 1839.



and came to America with his parents when four years of age, spending his boyhood in Madison, Wis. He married in 1872 and came to Minnesota, locating in Blooming Prairie. He was an engineer up to the time of his death, in June, 1890. Elen Bergetta (Olson) Severson was born in Stavanger, Norway, in 1843, of Quaker parents, her father being in the fish shipping business. She came to America in 1870 and lived with an uncle in Austin until coming to Blooming Prairie in 1872. To Mr. and Mrs. Sever Severson were born three sons, Charles, Otto and Stephen. Sever O. Severson enlisted from Wisconsin in the Civil War February 3, 1863, and was mustered into the United States service at Camp Randall, Madison, March 3, 1863, as a private of Company B, 30th Wis. Vol. Inf., under Capt. Lewis S. Burton and Col. Daniel J. Dill to serve three years, or during the war. The regiment was assigned to enforce the draft in the state and later was assigned to the Army of the Northwest, and sent by detachments to Dakotas and Minnesota, taking part in General Sully's campaign. Afterward the regiment was ordered to proceed south via Missouri and Mississippi to Louisville and Bowling Green, Ky., and assigned to Second Brid. Second Div., Military District of Kentucky, January 10, 1865, moved to Louisville, Ky., a detachment going to Frankfort, Ky., on guard and provost duty. Sever O. Severson was honorably discharged September 20, 1865, on account of close of war.

**John Gerhard Mohn** is president of the Mohn Printing Company. This company publishes the Northfield "Independent," a local newspaper, and the "Norwegian-American," a national newspaper, published in English, which covers the entire Northwest. Mr. Mohn was born at Northfield in the year 1880. He is the second son of the late T. N. Mohn, for twenty-five years president of St. Olaf College, and Anna E. Mohn, nee Ringstad, formerly of Winneshiek county, Iowa. John G. Mohn graduated from St. Olaf College in 1899, securing the degree of A. B. at the age of nineteen years. His first position was on the Northfield "News" staff under the late Hon. Joel P. Heatwole, which he held for two years. Later he was employed on the Northfield "Independent," the newspaper he now publishes. Before reaching out into the daily paper field, Mr. Mohn was employed for a short time by the Theopold Mercantile Company, of Faribault, and for three years by J. H. Bell & Co., of Chicago. Since that time, Mr. Mohn, for six years, confined himself to newspaper work for the "Pioneer Press," Omaha "World-Herald," St. Paul "Daily News," Chicago "Inter Ocean," Minneapolis "Times," and Minneapolis "Tribune."

**Ray Anton Mohn**, vice president of the Mohn Printing Company, is the third son of the late T. N. Mohn, for twenty-five

years president of St. Olaf College, and of Anna E. Mohn, nee Ringstad, formerly of Winnesheik county, Iowa. He was born on September 20, 1882, at Northfield. In 1902 he graduated from St. Olaf College and since that time has been constantly engaged in the commercial profession, representing Twely Eiman Company of Superior, Wis.; H. J. Heinz Company, of Pittsburg; Ringrose Pickling Company, and M. A. Gedbey Pickling Company, of Minneapolis. On January 1, 1909, he was given charge for the latter firm, of Montana, Idaho and Utah.

**George William Mohn** was born in Northfield in 1884. He is a son of the late President Th. N. Mohn, for twenty-five years president of St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minn., and Anna E. Mohn, nee Ringstad. He received his education at St. Olaf College, from which institution he graduated in 1905, receiving the degree of A. B. Immediately after completing his college course he became local news editor of the Northfield "Independent," in which position he continued for two years. In the fall of 1907 he accepted the position of principal of St. Ansgar Academy, St. Ansgar, Iowa. Newspaper work, however, was his chosen profession, and in the fall of 1908 he returned to Northfield to become a member of the Mohn Printing Company, with which he has since been connected, first as news editor of the "Norwegian-American," and later as general manager of the company.

**Andrew Ansel Rowberg** was born on a farm near Hanley Falls, Minn., on May 16, 1887. His father's name was Leif K. Rowberg and his mother's maiden name was Caroline Akre. He attended the country school in his home locality, and later entered St. Olaf College at Northfield, Minn., finishing the academy in 1906, and the college in 1910. In May, 1910, he became a member of the Mohn Printing Company, and on the retirement of C. P. Carpenter, he became the editor of the Northfield "Independent."

**Egbert K. Whiting**, the capable business manager of the "Journal-Chronicle," Owatonna, was born in Clearwater, Wright county, Minnesota, August 17, 1870, son of Samuel and Anna (Mayo) Whiting. He received his early education in the public schools of his native place, and later attended Carleton College. In 1890 he started the operation of a job printing establishment in St. Cloud, and conducted it until 1892. He came to Owatonna in 1894, and was engaged as reporter and assistant business manager until 1897, when in company with H. F. Luers, he purchased the "Farmers' Gazette," which title was changed to Owatonna "Chronicle." March 7, 1906, Whiting and Luers purchased the Owatonna "Journal," and effected a consolidation under the name of the Owatonna "Journal-Chronicle," owned

by the Journal-Chronicle Company. Mr. Whiting served five years in Company I, Second Minnesota National Guards. He is a member of the Blue Lodge and the Chapter in Masonry, and also belongs to the Knights of Pythias. He was married October 20, 1909, to May Taylor Hays, of Owensboro, Ky.

**John C. Brainerd**, banker, one of the leading citizens of Blooming Prairie, was born in Sodus, N. Y., October 2, 1844, son of John C. and Mary (Pease) Brainerd, the former of Colonial New England ancestry, and the latter of English birth and ancestry. The subject of this sketch received a good common school education, and for a time attended the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary, at Lima, N. Y. In 1854 he was brought to Dodge county, Wisconsin, by his parents. He worked on a farm, taught school, and then became a telegraph operator and railroad station agent, being stationed at various places until 1871, when he came to Blooming Prairie as agent and operator. In all, Mr. Brainerd was in the employ of the C., M. & St. P. road for seventeen years. October, 1871, he embarked in the lumber business, and in 1877 entered the banking business. With the exception of two years in Montana, Mr. Brainerd has resided in Blooming Prairie continuously since his first arrival here. He was the first village recorder and treasurer of Blooming Prairie, and has served in various other capacities in the village. In the fall of 1894 he was elected to the state legislature. He is a member of the A. F. & A. M. Mr. Brainerd was married October 28, 1870, to Melissa Burnham, and this union has been blessed with five children: George S., Laura M. (wife of Henry M. Hurlbut), Ben. A., Rena C. and March C.

**Joel P. Heatwole**, who died April 4, 1910, after twenty-six years' service as editor and proprietor of the Northfield "News," was one of the most prominent men in Rice county. He was born August 22, 1856, at Waterford Mills, Ind. In early life he worked on a farm, and learned the printer's trade, later took up school teaching and became principal of the village school in the village of Millersburg, Ind. While thus employed he was interested in 1876 in the village paper and became its editor and proprietor. He also did other newspaper work. In 1882 he came to Minnesota and took up work on the Glencoe "Enterprise." Later he was employed on the Lake Superior "News," published at Superior, Wis. From there he went back to Glencoe and took charge of the "Enterprise." In 1884 he came to Northfield and purchased the "News." In the meantime the Rice County "Journal" had been published by Pierce and Wheaton. The latter sold out and Mr. Pierce remained in charge. It was then absorbed by Mr. Heatwole's "News," the consolidated paper being published by Heatwole and Minder. In 1885, Mr. Heat-

wole purchased his partner's interest and continued as sole owner until his death. In 1886 Mr. Heatwole was elected a delegate to the Republican State Convention and was chosen secretary of the Republican state central committee. In 1888 he was elected a delegate to the Republican National Convention. In the next state campaign he was chairman, and in 1890, Governor Merriam appointed him a member of the board of regents of the state university. In the meantime he had been elected president of the State Editorial Association, and twice filled that position. In 1903 he was defeated in a campaign for election to congress, although he reduced the Democratic plurality. In 1896 he was elected to congress, and was re-elected in 1898 and 1900. His influence at Washington was great, and he was assigned to a number of important committees. The memory of his life and deeds will ever be held sacred in Northfield and Rice county.

**J. W. Schultz**, the genial proprietor of the Brunswick Hotel, Faribault, was born in Germany, November 14, 1866. He came to America with his mother in 1871, residing at Republic, Marquette county, Michigan, for a short period, after which they removed to Duluth, where he passed the most of his boyhood, and secured a public school education, supplementing this with a course in a Duluth business college. In 1889, he entered the hotel business at Duluth, in which he was very successful. Later in 1898, he took up his residence in Faribault and conducted the Arlington Hotel for two years. He then engaged in the whole-sale business for several years, and a few months ago purchased the Brunswick House, which was originally opened April 11, 1883, by Townsend and Patrick. Mr. Schultz was married March 14, 1891, to Mary Jane Schuman. Two children have blessed this union, named, in order of birth, Arthur and Dorothy. The family owns a beautiful home in the residence section of Faribault, located on the corner of Second avenue and Seventh street. Nichols and Mary (Bach) Schultz, parents of J. W. Schultz, were natives of Germany. After the father's decease in 1866, the mother came to America with her infant son, and died at Duluth in 1891. They were thrifty and industrious people.

**Dr. Theo. L. Hatch** came to Owatonna May 5, 1880, the date of the arrival of Drs. Kelly, Cass and Aukes. He is still in active practice. Dr. Hatch was born in Broome county, New York, January 20, 1848. When he was two years old he was taken by his parents to Washington county, Wisconsin, where they resided until he was six years of age, when they moved to Plainville, Adams county, Wisconsin. Dr. Hatch received a good common school education, and at the age of twenty engaged



in teaching. In the spring of 1867 he commenced the study of medicine at Neillsville, Wis., and took his medical degree at the University of Michigan, March 29, 1871. In the final examination for his degree he stood at the head of his class in anatomy and physiology, and obstetrics and gynaecology. He practiced at Neillsville, Wis., during the summer of 1871, coming to Steele county in October of that year. During the winter of 1871-72 he taught school at Aurora station, engaging in practice outside of school hours. In the spring of 1872 he moved to Blooming Prairie and practiced medicine, engaging also with his brother, Lewis P., in the drug business. Dr. Hatch has served several terms as county physician. He was married September 23, 1884, to Grace M. Illick, of Galesburg, Mich., and to this union have been born two children: Frederika G., born December 8, 1887, married June 15, 1909, to Prof. J. C. Jones, professor of English literature at Pillsbury Academy; and Theo. L., Jr., born September 6, 1895.

**Orlando Johnson**, one of the first settlers of Steele county, was a native of Chenango county, New York, born in 1831, his parents being Smith and Elizabeth Carpenter Johnson. When twenty years old Orlando went to Wisconsin and a short time later to Kingsmur Grove, Whiteside county, Illinois, where he taught school during the winter of 1851. In the spring of 1852 he went to St. Paul, Minn., and a short time later to Faribault. In the summer of 1853, he came with a party of first settlers to what is now Steele county and took a claim for his father, Smith Johnson, Sr., on the present site of Medford village. In 1854 he turned the claim over to his father. He was here off and on until 1855, but his home was at Faribault. In 1853 he had bought a claim at Faribault, and in company with Mark Wells erected a cabin. In the summer of 1855 he went to California, where he was engaged in mining and lumbering. In 1861 he enlisted in the First California Volunteer Infantry, which remained in camp at Los Angeles, Cal., during the winter of 1861-62. In the spring they crossed the California desert, reaching the Rio Grande at Fort Thorn. Going down the river they were stationed at Franklin, now El Paso, Tex. The remainder of his service was passed at Santa Fe and Fort Union. During the time he was in Mexico his duty consisted chiefly in gathering Indians on the reservation, and his last act was to station 113 red skins. He was honorably discharged at Fort Union, N. M., returned to Medford, Minn., in October, 1864. In 1870, he engaged in the general mercantile trade for a short time. In the spring of 1873 he erected the cheese factory which he still carries on, doing an extensive business. Mr. Johnson was married November 1,

1865, to Miss Olive E. Hulett. They have two children, Luke H., and Lloyd B.

**Eden N. Leavens** is one of the early pioneers still living in Faribault. He was born in Putnam, Conn., August 3, 1826, and came to Faribault in October, 1855. He was postmaster for sixteen years, and served for a long period as assistant. He has occupied a number of important local positions, and is a veteran of the Civil War. Mrs. Leavens, who is prominent in Relief Corps circles, was Mary E. Winter, born May 2, 1838, and married April 24, 1866.

**Clark Chambers** is one of the early pioneers of Steele county. He was born in Ellicottville, N. Y., January 2, 1839, and came to Owatonna in 1859 with his parents. He served as aide to his brother, Gen. Alex. Chambers, during the Civil War, has been alderman of Owatonna, sheriff of Steele county, and a member of the Owatonna hospital board, as well as a member of the state prison board.

**K. O. Finseth**, Nerstrand banker, was born in Holden, Minn., January 25, 1865, and came to Nerstrand in 1906, assuming his present position as cashier of the Farmers' State Bank. Mr. Finseth is a graduate of the law department of the Iowa State University, and in his young manhood also studied two years at St. Olaf's, and four years at Luther College, Decorah, Iowa.

**Luther R. Weld**, Faribault, was born in Franklin county, Massachusetts, May 9, 1825. He came to Faribault in 1857, and was one of the early planing mill men and money loaners. He was assessor of Faribault some time, and at one period was vice president of the Citizens' National Bank.

**William F. Schilling**, who has been prominently identified with the dairy and agricultural interests of the state, is an excellent type of the modern successful and scientific farmer. His "Spring Brook Farm," at Northfield, just outside of the platted city, is one of the show places of the county. As printer, editor, farmer and public speaker, he has displayed those qualities which go to make up a useful citizen. Mr. Schilling was born in Hutchinson, McLeod county, this state, son of William and Mary C. (Lallier) Schilling, the former a Pennsylvanian of German ancestry, and the latter of French birth, both pioneers who settled in Minnesota in the early days, and a nephew of Christian Schilling, a pioneer of Carver county, this state. Young William received his education in the common schools, learned his trade as printer with the Hutchinson "Leader," worked on the St. Paul "Dispatch," and the "Pioneer Press," was foreman for the Northwestern Stamp Works, and worked on the Appleton "Press." While visiting in Northfield he was so pleased with the place that he decided to make this his habitation, and

accordingly he came here in 1894 as foreman for Joel P. Heatwole on the Northfield "News." After a few months he was promoted to the city department, when Charles H. Pierce became superintendent of the house document department at Washington. At the foundation of Heatwole's dairy paper, now the Minnesota "Dairyman," he became its editor, in which capacity he still remains. After a few years he purchased a small farm in the rear of St. Olaf's College, and in 1904 leased the Spring Brook Farm, which, in 1910, he purchased from Mrs. J. P. Heatwole. During the Spanish-American War, Mr. Schilling was captain of the local military company. He is now president of the Minnesota State Dairymen's Association and of the Holstein-Friesian Association of America. Mr. Schilling was married August 23, 1899, to Margaret De Hannemann, whose parents were early settlers of Reed's Landing, Minn. This union has been blessed with six children: Mary C., Charlotte B., Jeanette, Dorothy, William and Louis. Mr. Schilling owes his greatest distinction to the introduction of community breeding of blooded cattle in America. His cow, of the Holstein-Friesian breed, Esther Piebe De Kol, Second, is the champion cow in the state, and has a record of 29.43 pounds of butter in seven days, 114 pounds in thirty days, and an average of 98 pounds of milk for forty-three days.

**C. P. Carpenter** was born in Connecticut, February 4, 1853. The family came to Minnesota in 1855. At sixteen he left home to learn the printer's trade, and was admitted to the bar September 29, 1890. Mr. Carpenter served as assistant clerk of the house of representatives in the legislature of 1887, and as chief clerk of the house in 1889. In May, 1889, he was appointed as special judge of the Northfield municipal court, and was elected to that office in March, 1900. In March 1906, he was elected judge of the Northfield municipal court, and in March last was re-elected.

**Charles Hart Pierce** was born near Salem, Ind., October 3, 1853. He came to Northfield in early manhood and was for a time enrolled as a student at Carleton College, his father, a Congregational minister, being connected with the college in some official capacity. Possessing considerable literary ability, Mr. Pierce turned his attention to newspaper work, and devoted the greater portion of his life to that field. Associating himself with what was then called the Rice County "Journal," he finally became one of the proprietors, the "Journal," for a time, being published under the firm name of Wheaton & Pierce. Continuing through several newspaper administrations, Mr. Pierce became associated with Mr. Heatwole in the building up of the Northfield "News." For a time Mr. Pierce was superin-

tendent of the house document department in Washington. In April, 1900, he was appointed postmaster at Northfield, and his efficiency and satisfactory service fully merited the reappointments received in 1904 and 1908. Mr. Pierce was at all times interested in local public affairs. In a literary way he manifested a fund of quaint humor and an exceptional ability in picturing local happenings in an interesting way through his contributions to the "News," written by "The Man on the Square." He died September 27, 1910.

### PHYSICIANS.

Dr. F. S. Bodle was another of the old army surgeons. He came to Owatonna in 1866, immediately after the war, and practiced here two or three years. He then moved to Oakland, Cal. Dr. Daniel S. Harsha came to Owatonna from Waupun, Wis., in 1855, and after remaining a short time, went back to Waupun, practicing there until 1856, when he became a permanent resident of Owatonna. Dr. Harsha, upon coming to Owatonna, decided to abandon the practice of medicine which had impaired his health, and he and his father-in-law, Judge N. M. Donaldson, opened a drug and grocery store. Owing, however, to the lack of physicians, Dr. Harsha did considerable practicing for several years. He died about 1881. Dr. E. E. Everhardt located in Blooming Prairie in 1880. He remained there about two years and then went to Iowa. Dr. O. F. Way studied medicine with Dr. E. M. Morehouse in Owatonna, and located in Blooming Prairie in 1882. Later he removed to Claremont in Dodge county, where he is still engaged in practice. Dr. T. C. Caldwell, an eclectic physician, practiced at Blooming Prairie from 1882 to 1884. Later he practiced in various places in the northern part of the state. Dr. J. L. Harrington was born in Windham county, Vermont, in 1840. In 1862 he graduated in medicine from the University of Vermont, and soon commenced to practice in Weston in that state. In 1864 he enlisted in Company I, Fourth Vermont Volunteer Infantry, and was subsequently promoted to surgeon in the First Vermont Heavy Artillery. In 1866 he went to Halifax, Vt., and resumed his practice, remaining there until 1881. During his residence there he was a member of the state constitutional convention in 1872. In 1878 he was elected to the legislature, and was chairman of the state board of supervisors of the insane in 1879 and 1880. February 2, 1867, he was married to Mrs. Catharine Tenny, a native of New Hampshire. In 1881, Dr. Harrington came to Owatonna and practiced until his death in February, 1893, at the age of fifty-three. A son, Dr. W. E. Harrington, is practicing



medicine in Oklahoma. Dr. J. Palmer Johnson was born in Windham county, Connecticut, February 22, 1839. He read medicine, and later attended the Rush Medical College, at Chicago, Ill., graduating in 1876. Previous to his graduation he settled in Blooming Prairie about May, 1874, and in 1876 took up his practice there. In September, 1892, he became a resident of Owatonna, and practiced here until 1902. He then went to Canon City, Col., where his wife died in December, 1903, after which he returned to Owatonna. He is the father of Dr. Charles B. Johnson, mentioned elsewhere. Dr. W. C. Hadley commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Morehouse in 1880, and in 1883 located in Blooming Prairie. After a year there, his office was burned and he moved to Utah. He died there, July 29, 1891, at the age of twenty-four years. Dr. D. H. Roberts, a homeopathic physician, was born near Richmond, Wayne county, Indiana, in 1824. He received his medical education principally in Indianapolis. After practicing a short time he accepted a chair of natural science in the Whitewater College, and later he was made superintendent of the Farmers' Institute near Lafayette, Ind. Subsequently he practiced in Pendleton, Ind. In 1869 he came to Minnesota and located in Plainview. In 1872 he came to Owatonna, and with the exception of one or two years practiced until 1902, when he moved to California. He is still living. Dr. L. L. Bennett was born in Illinois and came to Owatonna in 1864. Shortly after entering the banking business in 1873, he retired from the practice of medicine. Dr. Bennett has distinguished himself as a physician, a financier and a citizen. His biography appears elsewhere. Dr. George A. Rossbach came to Owatonna in 1871 and continued in active practice up to the time of his death, March 21, 1891, at the age of seventy-eight years. Dr. Rossbach was born in Moyaumontier, France, in 1813. Graduating from Strasburg Medical College in 1833, he went with a regiment of French troops to Africa in the capacity of surgeon. He came to America in 1851, locating in Sauk county, Wisconsin. In 1861 he was made surgeon of the Third Wisconsin Cavalry, serving a year and a half with the troops and two years at a hospital in Fort Worth, Kan. Dr. W. A. Ware came to Owatonna from Iowa in 1858, arriving with Austin Vinton, the father of Wilbur and W. H. Vinton. He was engaged in the practice of his profession continuously until 1889, when he retired to his former home in New York state. He died at Ellington Center, Chautauqua county, New York, in 1893. Dr. Ware was a man of fine physique and presence and an exceedingly competent physician. He never was known to become disconcerted, no matter how trying the situation, while his presence in the sick room did as much for his patients as medi-

cine. Dr. F. M. Smersh studied medicine with Dr. E. M. Morehouse and started in business in Owatonna in 1889. He became senior partner of the firm of Smersh and Kubat. He represented the Fourth ward several terms in the city council and is now serving as president of the city board of health. Dr. Christian Peterson began practice in Owatonna in 1884, and has served several terms as county physician. Dr. A. B. Stewart came to Owatonna in June of 1891, having graduated from the University of Minnesota, and began the practice of medicine, in which he is still engaged. He also spent a year in Europe in post-graduate work. He was mayor of the city in 1897. Dr. R. C. Banks came to Owatonna in 1893, from Pine Island, Minn. He practiced for a number of years until failing health compelled him to abandon the arduous duties of his calling, finally removing to Plainview, Minn., where he died. Dr. S. O. Francis came to Owatonna in January, 1893, from Wasioja. He remained about three months and then returned to Wasioja. He was a homeopathic physician. Dr. George Schultze came to Owatonna in October 1897, from Elysian, Minn., where he had been in practice for several years, and remained until the summer of 1910, when he returned to Germany for post-graduate work. Dr. B. M. J. Conlin began practice in Owatonna in January, 1895, having at that time been a resident of South Dakota for some years. He is still actively engaged in business. Dr. Elizabeth Lewis, a homeopathic physician, came to Owatonna from Minneapolis and took up practice with Dr. D. H. Roberts. She returned to Minneapolis early in 1898. Dr. Florence C. Baier became a practitioner of medicine in Owatonna in May, 1898, and in the summer of 1900 moved to Minneapolis. Dr. W. C. Roberts was formerly a resident of Lincoln, Neb., and came to Owatonna in June, 1899, beginning at once the practice of medicine (homeopathic), in which he is still engaged. Dr. E. E. Hubbard began the practice of medicine in Medford in the early part of 1894, leaving in 1896 and going to Faribault. A year or two later he moved to Kansas City. He is professor of pathology in the Medical-Chirurgical College in that city, and also professor of pathology and bacteriology in the Woman's Medical College there. Dr. C. W. Kanne, a former resident of Deerfield, opened an office in Owatonna in the summer of 1900 and was here a few months, going to Arlington. Later he took special courses in Europe. Dr. Ira G. Beeman formerly lived on a farm in Blooming Grove township. He practiced in Medford for many years, until compelled by failing health to abandon work. His death occurred at Owatonna in 1910. Dr. Guel Morehouse followed his father's footsteps in practice in Owatonna a few years ago. His biography appears elsewhere. Dr. C. C. Dot-

aldson came from Fairmont to Owatonna in 1898. He practiced here until the following summer, when he again went to Fairmont. Drs. H. G. Bickford and J. W. Warren both located in Owatonna during 1909, but after remaining a few months departed; the former returning to Redwood Falls, Minn., and the latter to Blooming Prairie, this county, where he associated himself in practice with Dr. H. G. Woods. Dr. Ole H. Bakke took up the practice of medicine in Blooming Prairie in 1896, afterwards removing to Minneapolis, where he is at present. Dr. W. S. Wood located in Blooming Prairie in 1901, and served as president of the village and in other public positions. After a year spent in post-graduate work in London and Vienna, he returned and, limiting his practice to diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat, opened offices in Faribault and Owatonna and also at Blooming Prairie. His health failed him in 1908 and he was obliged to relinquish work and seek health, which he never found. His death from pulmonary trouble occurred at his parents' home in Faribault in March, 1910. Dr. Harry G. Wood, a younger brother, became associated in business with him in 1905, and is still engaged in the practice of medicine at Blooming Prairie. Dr. Willis H. Twiford came to Steele county in 1864, locating on a farm in Somerset township. He later removed to the village of Geneva, in Freeborn county, where he remained in active practice until 1897, when he moved to Owatonna, resigning his work shortly afterwards because of advancing age. His death occurred in October, 1909. Dr. Solomon S. Blood came to Owatonna in 1866. He had been an army surgeon and obtained considerable reputation locally along this line after his arrival in Steele county. Dr. Blood was a man of great energy and perseverance. He died of cancer of the stomach, December 21, of that year, aged seventy-one years. Dr. W. H. Woods came to Steele county in 1856. Nine years later he moved to Le Sueur county and soon afterward took up the study of medicine, beginning practice at Madelia. While there, he was one of the physicians who attended the Northfield bank robbers who were captured near that place. Dr. Woods located in Blooming Prairie in November, 1891. In 1900 he came to Owatonna and practiced about two years. He died in Owatonna, in December, 1903, aged eighty years. Dr. George H. Terrell came to Owatonna from Lorain county, Ohio, in 1866, remained two or three years and then returned to his former home. Dr. E. W. Cooley studied medicine with Dr. E. M. Morehouse and located in Blooming Prairie in 1887, being still located there. Dr. W. C. Eustis came to Owatonna in October, 1891, from Farmington, Minn., where he practiced for several years, and has actively engaged in the duties of his profession ever since. Dr.

Gowdy began practice in Owatonna in November, 1871, remaining until 1874, when he went to Blooming Prairie and practiced a month. Dr. Kelley, a lady physician, and Dr. Cass, a homeopath, arrived in Owatonna, May 5, 1880. They remained about three months. Dr. E. E. Aukes came to Owatonna, May 5, 1880, and remained until the fall of 1884, when he moved to Beatrice, Neb. He was a graduate of the Guttentberg University, and was a thoroughly educated and well equipped member of his profession. Dr. J. W. Andrist located in Ellendale in 1901, and continued in practice there until 1908, when, after a year spent in travel and study, he located in Owatonna, where he still resides. Dr. Frank L. Morehouse, a former resident of Steele county, and a nephew of Dr. E. M. Morehouse, moved from Chicago to Owatonna in May, 1902, and after a few months relinquished his practice and conducted a large dairy farm on the outskirts of the city. He later removed to Indiana and resumed practice, in which he is still engaged. Dr. Cooper practiced in Owatonna from November, 1903, to January, 1904, when he removed to Dent, Minn., where he still lives. Dr. W. W. Finch had been a practicing physician in Vermont before enlisting in the army. He came to Steele county in 1856, locating in Clinton Falls township. October 8, 1861, he was elected county treasurer of Steele county and served two years. He remained in this county for a number of years after the expiration of his term, and then moved to Santa Barbara, Cal., where he died. He was a man of natural and acquired ability, justly esteemed and respected by all with whom he came in contact. He was an uncle of C. M. Finch, of Clinton Falls. Dr. T. M. Hammond practiced in Owatonna from 1874 to 1877. Dr. E. E. Bigelow came to Owatonna in 1877, and was actively engaged in practice until 1895. His biography appears elsewhere. Dr. Saulsbury, also an old army surgeon, located in Blooming Prairie early in 1871 and left there late in 1872. Dr. C. Wilbur Ray began practice in Owatonna in the spring of 1892, and left during the winter of 1892-93. Dr. Charles J. Pillsbury, a homeopathic physician, came to Owatonna from Duluth in June, 1898, and remained just one year. From Owatonna he went to Faribault, remaining there about two years, and then returned to Duluth, where he died. For several years Dr. Pillsbury was a member of the State Board of Medical Examiners. Dr. Miner, another homeopathic physician, practiced in Owatonna from the summer of 1897 until early in 1898. Dr. J. H. Bowers, also a homeopathic physician, came to Owatonna in 1897, and left during the latter part of 1899. Dr. J. Habenick, a Bohemian physician, became a resident of Owatonna in 1894 and remained fourteen months. Dr. J. Brown located in Medford about 1886 and was there nearly a year.



Dr. J. W. Swedenborg came to Ellendale and remained in practice till 1909, when he removed to Thief River Falls, Minn., where he still lives. Dr. Jacob Martin, a German physician, came to Owatonna in 1884 and remained here about a year, after which he went to Fountain City, Wis., where he died. Dr. George W. Powell became a resident of Medford in the winter of 1876-77, and left there in 1880. Dr. George E. Vaughn began practice at Blooming Prairie, June 18, 1895, and on February 26, 1897, removed to Hurley, S. D. Dr. Bingham practiced medicine in Medford between 1870 and 1880. Dr. McDonald, a Canadian, and a graduate of McGill University, practiced in Owatonna two or three months in the summer of 1882, going from here to western Iowa, where he still lives. Dr. E. P. Whitford moved to Medford, September 1, 1882. His wife died there in January, 1883, and he was remarried, September 4, 1884, to a Miss Hastings, a relative of the Hastings family of Owatonna. Dr. Whitford moved to Le Sueur county in April, 1886, and some years later took up practice in Westboro, Mo. Dr. L. F. Case studied medicine with Dr. E. M. Morehouse, who was his brother-in-law. He began practice about 1866 and retired early in 1880. He then became a resident of Minneapolis, removing from there to Los Angeles, Cal., where he now resides. Dr. H. S. Hill came to Owatonna in 1875 and about ten years later moved to Springfield, Mo. While in Owatonna he was a member of the drug firm of Hill & Luers. Dr. J. G. Gilchrist, a homeopathic physician, practiced in Owatonna from 1866 to 1872, going then to Winona, and later to Iowa, where he died a few years ago. Dr. Flavel B. Tiffany located in Medford about 1876, and a year later removed to Kansas City, where he still resides. He is professor of ophthalmology in the University Medical College of that city, and has attained considerable prominence in his chosen field of work. Dr. J. H. Adair began to practice medicine in Owatonna in 1884 and is still actively engaged in the duties of his profession. His biography appears elsewhere. Dr. E. M. Morehouse was the pioneer physician of Owatonna and Steele county, locating in Owatonna in 1855, with no other physicians nearer at that time than Rochester, Mankato, the Twin Cities and McGregor. His biography and portrait appear elsewhere. His practice comprised all of Steele and adjacent counties for years, and he was everywhere known as the friend of the poor man. He gave of his time and efforts freely whenever asked, and his death, which occurred in 1891, was universally deplored. Dr. Theodore L. Hatch came to Owatonna in 1880, removing here from Blooming Prairie, Minn., where he had practiced for eight years. He is still in active practice. His sketch appears elsewhere. Charles B. Johnson, son of Dr. J. P.

Johnson, died in Owatonna in January, 1898. His diploma was issued after his death. Dr. McManamy practiced in Owatonna in 1878-79. T. W. Nichols and A. B. Tashjian, two eclectic physicians, located in Owatonna in 1884. They remained about two months. T. W. Roberts established practice in Owatonna with his father, D. H. Roberts, in the spring of 1884. He went from here to Faribault, thence to St. Paul, where he still resides. C. E. Gates located in Owatonna in July, 1904, and remained about two months.

#### STEELE COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY.

The Steele County Medical Society was organized in 1894. Its objects were the mutual benefit of its members and the proper protection of their interests. It continued in this form for several years when a reorganization was effected in order to conform to the laws governing the formation of component societies of the State Medical Society.

The first officers were as follows: President, T. L. Hatch; secretary, A. B. Stewart; treasurer, D. H. Roberts.

As at present constituted the membership comprises the regular profession of the entire county, with one or two exceptions. Monthly meetings are held at which several papers on professional subjects are presented by members in rotation according to a definite plan. The present officers of the society are: President, J. W. Andrist; vice president, J. H. Adair; secretary, A. B. Stewart; treasurer, G. Schulze.

# INDEX

- Abbott, Ezra and John H., 766  
 Abbott, W. D., 731  
 Adair, James, 1031  
 Adair, John W., 1029  
 Adair, Robert, 1029  
 Adair, John H., 1029  
 Adams, W. K., 1248  
 Adsit, Aden C., 749  
 Adsit, Charles, 1225  
 Afdem, M. P., 1163  
 Ahrens, Fred, 1168  
 Alexander, J. W., 1250  
 Albers, H. F. C., 1250  
 Alexander, J. J., 1249  
 Alexander, Fred A., 733  
 Allen, W. W., 1251  
 Anderson, Axel, 1504  
 Anderson, G. L., 1249  
 Anderson, Hans P., 1073  
 Andrews, J. F., 1252  
 Antel, John, 1073  
 Anderson, C. K., 1131  
 Anderson, O. J., 1123  
 Anderson, Lars, 1238  
 Anderson, T. M., 1237  
 Archibald, E. T., 1248  
 Arms, Wm. W., 1030  
  
 Bach, Reynold H., 1031  
 Bailey, N. C., 1143  
 Bailey, W. A., 1076  
 Ball, O. W., 1254  
 Barker, T. E., 1159  
 Barnett, J. W., 1269  
 Barron, H. E., 1261  
 Bassett, F. M., 1119  
 Batchelder, G. W., 1490  
 Batzle, Christopher, 1226  
 Bauernfiend, S. B., 1252  
 Bauernfiend, Martin, 1253  
 Becker, Jr., Mathias, 1268  
 Becker, L. N., 1269  
 Behne, Henry, 1167  
 Belina, Anton M., 1077  
 Bell, A. J., 1255  
 Bennett, C. K., 1128  
 Bennett, G. B., 1128  
 Bennett, L. L., 1127  
 Benson, O., 1258  
 Berg, Andrew A., 1075  
 Berg, Lewis C., 1034  
 Berry, F. A., 1481  
 Berry, John M., 343  
 Best, H. G., 1254  
 Bieck, A. H., 1264  
 Bigelow, E. E., 1245  
  
 Bill, E. C., 1504  
 Bill, A. H., 1505  
 Blodgett, Alson, 1481  
 Blodgett, Jr., Alson, 1482  
 Bloomer, E. R., 1256  
 Blume, H. T., 1122  
 Boe, H. A., 1260  
 Bohri, Frank G., 732  
 Bollenbach, J. W., 1265  
 Bollenbach, Charles, 1259  
 Borchert, H. W., 1215  
 Borehardt, Paul, 1253  
 Bosshard, Armin J., 1032  
 Bosshard, Gottfried, 1033  
 Bosshardt, Jacob, 1267  
 Bosshart, J. J., 1265  
 Bowler, F. T., 1522  
 Bowman, W. N., 1259  
 Brainerd, George S., 1075  
 Brainerd, J. C., 1542  
 Brand, O. F., 1493  
 Brandvold, A. T., 1260  
 Branes, G. J., 1267  
 Brennan, P. J., 1199  
 Brennan, E. J., 1200  
 Brick, John S., 1033  
 Brierton, J. W., 1152  
 Brosen, Peter, 1161  
 Brown, C. F., 1078  
 Brown, Henry J., 1079  
 Brown, Lawrence C., 1034  
 Brush, G. H. R., 1203  
 Bruzek, Thomas M., 1078  
 Bryant, Ezra C., 1077  
 Brynstad, L. J., 1074  
 Buchanan, James, 1264  
 Buchanan, Wm., 1263  
 Buchanan, Geo., 1263  
 Buck, C. M., 1527  
 Buckham, Thomas S., 719  
 Bultmann, Wm., 1266  
 Burch, Edwin K., 732  
 Burlinghame, Jr., James M., 731  
 Burlinghame, James M., 725  
 Burzinski, Anton, 1165  
 Bush, Peter, 99  
  
 Campbell, Robert, 1081  
 Campbell, Claude C., 1080  
 Campbell, L. G., 1238  
 Camp, Alfred, 1126  
 Canedy, N. S., 1271  
 Canfield, Wm. P., 1036  
 Cardoff, 1213  
 Carpenter, R. R., 1212  
 Carpenter, C. P., 1546

- Carlton, F. C., 1502  
 Carroll, J. R., 1239  
 Case, R. A., 1159  
 Cashman, T. E., 1231  
 Castle, N. R., 1275  
 Cardoff, G. F., 1213  
 Caron, C. H., 1270  
 Carpenter, R. R., 1212  
 Carey, Geo. L., 732  
 Cavanaugh, Dennis, 1506  
 Chadwick, M. B., 726  
 Chaffee, Henry, 1275  
 Chaffee, F. M., 1276  
 Chambers, Alex, 1160  
 Chambers, Clark, 1545  
 Chambers, Theodore, 1141  
 Chaney, L. W., 1537  
 Chapin, Byron P., 1035  
 Chase, K. D., 1280  
 Cheney, J. T., 1286  
 Childress, A. B., 1270  
 Clarine, Carl, 1274  
 Clark, Willis G., 475  
 Clarkson, Wm. B., 1037  
 Clefton, Guy J., 1036  
 Clefton, C. J., 1233  
 Cleland, A. E., 1286  
 Clements, E. K., 1519  
 Clemmensen, H. P., 1202  
 Clifford, C. F., 1273  
 Clifford, J. E., 1285  
 Clifford, John, 1492  
 Closson, J. F., 1282  
 Clover, C. L., 1284  
 Cogswell, Amos, 721  
 Coleman, J. A., 1502  
 Colquhoun, A., 1187  
 Conlin, T. J., 1277  
 Cook, Michael, 343  
 Coolcy, E. W., 1179  
 Cooper, John C., 100  
 Cooper, Charles H., 492  
 Cornell, A. B., 755  
 Cotter, Jay J., 1081  
 Couper, J. C., 1529  
 Cowan, A. B., 1502  
 Cowden, John, 1281  
 Cowling, Donald J., 497  
 Crandall, C. S., 1132  
 Crandall, W. H., 725  
 Craven, John, 1283  
 Craven, J. W., 1284  
 Crawford, G. E., 1272  
 Crocker, S. L., 1278  
 Crossett, H. H., 1283  
 Cruikshank, W. A., 1277  
 Cruttenden, H. L., 1276  
 Cushman, C. F., 1285  
 Cutts, E. H., 100  
 Dailey, M. A., 722  
 Damp, G. W., 1292  
 Darby, W. H., 1539  
 Darby, H. B., 1539  
 Darby, G. F., 1538  
 Darby, E. E., 1538  
 Darmody, Edward, 1216  
 Dartt, Harvey S., 1040  
 Davison, C. H., 1300  
 Davis, F. U., 1520  
 Dean, W. H., 1487  
 Dean, Edwin B., 470  
 Deike, Christian, 1299  
 Degen, Charles, 1287  
 Degros, Frank, 1287  
 Demann, C. W., 1297  
 Denison, E. O., 1298  
 De Long, C. H., 1198  
 Detert, T. J., 1300  
 Dibble, L. H., 1507  
 Disbrow, Levi A., 1038  
 Ditlevson, Louis C., 1083  
 Dobbin, James, 1288  
 Donaldson, S. F., 1289  
 Donaldson, Hon. N. M., 717  
 Donaldson, J. B., 1292  
 Donaldson, H. W., 1294  
 Donaldson, J. F., 1301  
 Donkers, P. H. J., 1291  
 Dorrance, George, 1295  
 Dow, J. J., 1290  
 Drake, J. E., 1297  
 Drozda, J. M., 1296  
 Dunham, F. A., 731  
 Dunham, Francis A., 1039  
 Dunigan, Thomas E., 1083  
 Dunigan, M. J., 1082  
 Durland, Geo., 1302  
 Ebel, C. F., 1307  
 Ebling, P. W., 1225  
 Eddy, W. L., 1306  
 Edwards, G. S., 1308  
 Eigenbrodt, G. H., 1304  
 Eisert, L. J., 1304  
 Eldred, W. W., 1308  
 Eliason, Peter, 1121  
 Ellingson, Erick, 1182  
 Emery, F. A., 1307  
 Erb, David, 1303  
 Erb, John, 1310  
 Erb, N. S., 1303  
 Errickson, Joseph, 1310  
 Ertel, Edward Q., 1084  
 Evans, Norman, 1115  
 Evans, Paul H., 1116  
 Evans, Margaret J., 487  
 Evert, John, 1309  
 Eylward D. T., 1310  
 Fagre, Theodore P., 1084  
 Fallon, Michael J., 1085  
 Farley, E. L., 732  
 Ferguson, I. W., 1236  
 Ferrell, O. H., 1126  
 Finch, H. A., 1184  
 Finseth, K. O., 1545  
 Fitzsimmons, E. R., 1312  
 Flinn, G. M., 1194  
 Foster, J. A., 1311



- Fox, A. F., 1313  
 Frink, F. W., 1508  
 Frink, E. L., 1509  
 Fritsch, Henry F., 1042  
 Fynskov, Christ F., 1040  
  
 Gale, Edmund, 1315  
 Gallea, J. B., 1181  
 Gallea, Geo. B., 1181  
 Ganser, Peter, 1044  
 Gardner, J. N., 1320  
 Garland, F. M., 476  
 Gibbs, John L., 730  
 Gibson, James, 510  
 Gilbertson, G. C., 1321  
 Gipson, E. H., 1315  
 Goff, Jr., Stephen C., 1044  
 Gordon, C. H., 1043  
 Gordon, J. D., 1043  
 Gordon, Charles S., 1043  
 Glotzbach, F. L., 1318  
 Graham, C. E., 1319  
 Grant, W. J., 1314  
 Grant, D. W., 1317  
 Grant, Angus, 1488  
 Grant, John, 1509  
 Green, Charles, 1042  
 Green, G. W., 759  
 Green, George W., 720  
 Greenville, J. E., 1320  
 Gregerson, Andrew, 1144  
 Gronowski, H. F., 1086  
  
 Haberman, A. T., 1087  
 Haberman, Fred, 1201  
 Haberman, Jacob, 1144  
 Hadley, C. W., 726  
 Hadley, R. S., 729  
 Hadley, W. C., 730  
 Haddahl, P. H., 1186  
 Hagan, Dan, 1323  
 Hammel, Louis F., 1052  
 Hamre, H. B., 1324  
 Hauck, E. W., 731  
 Hanson, Samuel S., 1171  
 Hansen, D. D., 1166  
 Hanzlicek, Frank, 1145  
 Hardwood, A. A., 723  
 Harkins, W. H., 1335  
 Harstad, O. M., 1326  
 Hart, Wm. H., 1088  
 Harty, J. F., 1088  
 Hartfield, C. H., 1486  
 Hassan, W. W., 1324  
 Hastings, Hector M., 1049  
 Hastings, S. M., 1051  
 Hatch, A. M., 1328  
 Hatch, T. L., 1543  
 Hatfield, J. D., 1327  
 Hauk, D. C., 1510  
 Haven, A. E., 1524  
 Hawley, C. W., 752  
 Headline, Murrey, 1335  
 Heatwole, J. P., 1542  
 Hegens, O. N., 1337  
 Hegland, Wm., 1173  
 Henderson, O. M., 1321  
 Herold, Carl G., 1047  
 Hickman, A. C., 723  
  
 Higby, Delos, 733  
 Hildebrandt, Wm., 1334  
 Hill, A. L., 1331  
 Hill, F. B., 1532  
 Hill, H. B., 1330  
 Hille, Jens I., 1501  
 Hillstad, C. N., 1086  
 Hirdler, C. B., 1337  
 Hirdler, A., 1338  
 Hjelsen, Andrew, 1089  
 Hobenschild, John, 1240  
 Holden, W. H., 1327  
 Hollister, L. M., 1332  
 Hondl, A. J., 1145  
 Hood, B. F., 730  
 Hoover, Edward, 1337  
 Hoover, M. H., 1336  
 Hosfield, C. D., 1089  
 Hostad, Thomas Y., 1045  
 Howe, Harry C., 1048  
 Howe, Thomas J., 1047  
 Hovland, G. J., 1087  
 Hulett, Luke, 96  
 Hunt, W. A., 1329  
 Hunter, James, 1530  
 Huntington, George, 487  
 Hutchinson, Robert W., 1046  
 Hutchinson, John, 1325  
 Hutchinson, R. R., 1322  
 Huxley, F. R., 1334  
 Hynds Family, 1217  
  
 Ingersoll, A. G., 728  
 Ingersoll, A. D., 728  
 Irvine, A. B., 1511  
  
 Jahreiss, Richard H., 1053  
 Jansa, John, 1146  
 Jansen, U. C., 1182  
 Jenkins, F. E., 1340  
 Jensen, Peter, 1218  
 Jenson, O. P., 1090  
 Jensen, Wm., 1204  
 Jerele, J. E., 1146  
 Jerele, L. F., 1146  
 Jergensen, Nels, 1240  
 Jerele, W. J., 1090  
 Jewett, Charles, 157  
 Jewett, Stephen, 1510  
 Joesting, Fred H., 1052  
 Johnson, A. E., 1093  
 Johnson, C. H., 1338  
 Johnson, David B., 731  
 Johnson, E. W., 1339  
 Johnson, G. E., 1093  
 Johnson, G. J., 1091  
 Johnson, Howard E., 727  
 Johnson, H. H., 725  
 Johnson, Orlando, 1544  
 Johnson, Philip, 1510  
 Johnson, P. J., 1091  
 Johnson, Smith, 1092  
 Jones, O. M., 1201  
 Jones, J. M., 1340  
  
 Kaiser, Wm., 1511  
 Kaisersatt, T. M., 1342  
 Kalina, J. F., 1348  
 Kalow, W. J., 1350

Kane, Hugh, 1348  
 Kaut, Wm., 1342  
 Karp, A. W., 1345  
 Kasper, Anton, 1186  
 Kaspar, J. A., 1221  
 Kauffman, F. R., 1503  
 Keefe, Michael H., 1054  
 Keesey, Wilbur R., 474  
 Keesey, W. R., 1347  
 Kelly, A. B., 1344  
 Kelley, D. F., 1528  
 Kelly, E. F., 1348  
 Kelly, Wm. H., 1222  
 Kelm, F., 1353  
 Kenney, E. H., 723  
 Kenney, John, 1355  
 Kenney, S. H., 1351  
 Kent, J. A., 1119  
 Kenyon, Thomas, 1056  
 Kenyon, Wm. E., 1055  
 Kiel, Charles, 1350  
 Kilty, W. H., 1195  
 Kinyon, C. J., 1230  
 Kinyon, Geo. R., 1188  
 Kinyon, W. R., 1228  
 King, John, 1354  
 King, W. H., 1194  
 Kingsley, W. S., 1346  
 Kinney, S. Grant, 1054  
 Kinyon, W. R., 722  
 Kirk, G. W., 1349  
 Klemer, F. L., 1343  
 Knauss, John, 1353  
 Kolling, F. A., 1513  
 Kratt, John, 1355  
 Krasemann, R. C., 1341  
 Kruckeberg, Henry, 1241  
 Kruckeberg, H. A., 1195  
 Kruckeberg, John, 1171  
 Kubat, S. A., 1117  
 Kueker, Wm., 1346  
 Kuntz, P. J., 1187  
 Kvasnicka, J. F., 1147

Lageson, John, 1149  
 Lamberty, N., 1364  
 Lane, J. W., 1166  
 Lane, Arthur W., 730  
 Langeslag, P. B., 1357  
 Langeslag, T., 1366  
 Larson, Hans, 1095  
 Larson, Lars, 1147  
 Laughlin, E. F., 1120  
 Law, John, 1363  
 Lea, J. J., 1241  
 Leach, M., 1366  
 Leach, H. E., 1350  
 Leach, A. R., 1358  
 Leach, H. E., 729  
 Leach, E. M., 1537  
 Leahey, S. J., 1367  
 Leary, W. J., 732  
 Leary, Timothy, 1498  
 Leavens, E. N., 1545  
 Le Crone, J. W., 1356  
 Lee Bros., 1094  
 Lee, G. O., 1501  
 Lee, Nels, 1118  
 Lenz, Jr., F. J., 1358

Lewis, Emma A., 1056  
 Lewis, John, 1056  
 Lewis, Edward, 1503  
 Lewis, J. H., 1513  
 Lincoln, Anna T., 495  
 Lindenberg, G. C., 1361  
 Lindenberg, W. H., 1361  
 Linnell, Caroline E., 493  
 Linse, August, 1148  
 Linse, Edward, 1149  
 Lips, Henry, 1179  
 Lips, J. J., 1514  
 Little, C. E., 1503  
 Littleton, S. T., 728  
 Lieb, R. J., 1363  
 Liebreinz, Ferdinand, 1149  
 Lockerby, Burt, 1360  
 Lockwood, L., 1365  
 Lockwood, W. N., 1514  
 Lonergan, Wm., 1173  
 Lord, Hon. Samuel, 719  
 Luers, H. F., 1133  
 Lyman, C. W., 1362  
 Lynch, W. F., 1359  
 Lysne, J. J., 1095

McCabe, James, 1503  
 McCarthy, T. J., 1369  
 McCarthy, J. F., 1368  
 McCrady, M. T., 1169  
 McElwain, F. A., 1515  
 McFall, E. E., 1218  
 McKellip, F. W., 1370  
 McKinstry, A. W., 1531  
 McLean, D. A., 1382  
 McMahon, J. P., 1371

Madsen, J., 1369  
 Mallinger, Peter, 1057  
 Mallinger, Adolph, 1058  
 Malone, John, 1204  
 Maloney, James J., 1070  
 Marshall, C. F., 1172  
 Mark, Harry, 1497  
 Marks, C. W., 1380  
 Martin, H. B., 1384  
 Matheson, J. H., 1188  
 Mattheson, H. M., 100  
 Mee, J. R., 1188  
 Mee, Wm., 1516  
 Meek, W. M., 1084  
 Meillier, J., 1377  
 Meyer, Frederick, 1160  
 Merat, Frank, 1379  
 Merrill, G. A., 1138  
 Metcalf, Wilmot V., 492  
 Meyer, W. C., 1374  
 Meyer, W. C., 1374  
 Michael, Paul, 1377  
 Miller, A. E., 1376  
 Miller, G. A., 1503  
 Miller, G. R., 1486  
 Miller, J. J., 709  
 Miller, J., 1372  
 Miller, S. R., 1376  
 Minton, Charles E., 1080  
 Moc, E. J., 1096  
 Moe, J. C., 1140  
 Mohn, Anton, 1540

- Mohn, G. W., 1541  
 Monson, Louis, 1150  
 Molen, George, 1383  
 Monson, Theodore, 1150  
 Montgomery, W. H., 1135  
 Morehouse, G. G., 1114  
 Morehouse, Eli M., 1113  
 Morford, S. D., 1169  
 Morford, G. W., 1234  
 Moriarty, G. W., 1235  
 Mork, H. P., 1096  
 Morley, J. R., 1242  
 Morrison, J. J., 1217  
 Morton, Edwin, 1178  
 Mosher, L. J., 1139  
 Mott, R. A., 1525  
 Mueller, H. A., 1379  
 Mueller, Jacques, 1378  
 Munro, D. F., 1385  
 Murphy, T. J., 1498  
 Murphy, G. W., 1373  
 Murray, David L., 1097  
  
 Naylor, E. H., 1215  
 Naylor, R. H., 1098  
 Naylor, Roy H., 1118  
 Nelson, Axel, 1243  
 Nelson, G. W., 1387  
 Nelson, Henry, 1124  
 Nelson, L. G., 1211  
 Nelson, R. P., 1098  
 Nelson, H. C., 1097  
 Nelson, Martin, 1119  
 Nesse, George A., 1060  
 Newcombe, T. F., 1388  
 Nordeen, P. J., 723  
 Nutting, E. G., 1386  
 Nutting, Frank, 1386  
 Nutting, J. C., 1387  
 Nutting, W. M., 1387  
 Nutting, Gen. Levi, 98  
  
 O'Brien, C. J., 732  
 Ochs, Albert, 1499  
 Odegard, Lewis, 1099  
 Offerman, Nicholas, 1389  
 O'Grady, Jr., T. O., 1396  
 Ohnstad, N. H., 1099  
 Oleson, August, 1396  
 Olsen, Hauge, 1394  
 Olin, A. M., 1391  
 Olin, C. O., 1390  
 Olson, Thomas, 1393  
 Osmundson, M. S., 1397  
 Osmundson, J. G., 1393  
 Orcutt, F. J., 1395  
 Orcutt, W. F., 1395  
 Orr, J. H., 1389  
 Orr, D. H., 1392  
  
 Page, Harlan W., 494  
 Palon, F. C., 1410  
 Farcher, M. J., 1135  
 Parrott, George, 1060  
 Parson, N., 1411  
 Partridge, N. O., 1157  
 Paulsen, H. P., 1151  
 Paulson, Nels, 1408  
 Paulson, Peter, 1408  
  
 Pauzer, H. F., 1152  
 Fayne, William W., 485  
 Pearson, Arthur H., 490  
 Pease, George, 1406  
 Peasley, Harry, 1412  
 Peavey, Lynne, 1405  
 Perkins, O. F., 99  
 Persons, C. O., 1504  
 Peterka, James, 1409  
 Petersen, Nis, 1222  
 Peterson, Soren, 1104  
 Feterston, Thomas, 1103  
 Peterson, Peter, 1103  
 Peterson, August, 1124  
 Peterson, Louis, 1101  
 Peterson, Rasmus, 1125  
 Peterson, J. C., 1243  
 Peterson, Christian, 1410  
 Peterson, C. N., 1397  
 Peterson, John, 1399  
 Feterston, Christian, 1061  
 Peterson, N. P., 1140  
 Peterson, A. A., 1174  
 Petteys, J. H., 1411  
 Phillips, G. M., 1537  
 Physicians, 1547  
 Pichner, John, 1210  
 Pichner, Jr., John, 1101  
 Pierce, C. H., 1546  
 Pierce, Henry, 1405  
 Pierce, F. M., 1407  
 PirkI, Joseph, 1102  
 Pivo, John N., 1062  
 Plante, J. A., 1406  
 Pribyl, J. J., 1101  
 Pribyl, Peter, 1244  
 Pringle, A. F., 1407  
 Printzing, J. A., 1409  
 Pryor, Henry, 1399  
 Puetz, J. J., 1196  
 Pump, Peter, 1100  
 Pye, W. W., 1404  
 Pye, S. M., 1403  
 Pye, C. W., 1401  
 Pye, C. G., 1398  
  
 Quinn, T. H., 1408  
 Quist, Alfred, 1424  
  
 Rachac, J. J., 1419  
 Randall, M. S., 1424  
 Rask, S. A., 1134  
 Ratzlaff, W. H., 1500  
 Ray, N. S., 1105  
 Ray, Sam, 1104  
 Reed, C. A., 1422  
 Reed, H. H., 1422  
 Reid, W. McC, 1416  
 Reichstetter, P. A., 1176  
 Reigard, Charles L., 733  
 Renchin, J. S., 1152  
 Remick, Henry, 1425  
 Reynolds, R. H., 1205  
 Revier, Frank, 1414  
 Ribstein, F. E., 1172  
 Rice, Henry M., 95  
 Rice, Eugene, 731  
 Richardson, J. W., 1415  
 Richter, B. R., 1413

- Richter, E. W., 728  
 Riens, J. F., 1164  
 Riens, T. J., 1164  
 Rockwood, H. G., 1177  
 Rockwood, P. J., 1177  
 Roe, Herman, 1532  
 Rogers, A. C., 1420  
 Rollins, Ethan, 1418  
 Rosskopf, F. R., 1105  
 Roth, H. H., 1417  
 Rowberg, A. A., 1541  
 Rowland, Joseph W., 1062  
 Ruen, H. O., 1220  
 Ruge, P. F., 1418  
 Rumpf, W. H., 1517  
 Runge, T. A., 1104  
  
 Saemrow, Wm., 1495  
 Sahler, C. P., 1229  
 Sallmon, William H., 496  
 Sander, Henry R., 1063  
 Sanford, C. W., 1427  
 Saufferer, Benjamin, 1426  
 Sawyer, D. P., 1235  
 Sawyer, A. W., 733  
 Sawyer, W. F., 727  
 Sawyer, J. A., 727  
 Schafer, Barnard, 1207  
 Schochet, P. A., 1497  
 Schoen, J. N., 1136  
 Schilling, W. F., 1545  
 Schmidt, A. G., 1153  
 Schmidt, Carl, 1445  
 Schmidt, Herman, 1068  
 Schuldt, J. H. C., 1142  
 Schultz, J. W., 1543  
 Schwake, Edwin, 1444  
 Scott, Walter, 1433  
 Scliver, H. A., 1489  
 Searles, J. B., 726  
 Searles, D., 1161  
 Selleck, W. A., 730  
 Selleck, O. D., 1154  
 Sette, C. F., 1122  
 Servatius, Charles J., 1067  
 Sery, John, 1441  
 Severson, S. S., 1539  
 Shaft, W. S., 1427  
 Shields, Charles, 1105  
 Shields, James, 183  
 Shields, M. M., 1535  
 Shields, P. H., 1443  
 Shields, Thomas, 1536  
 Shipman, G. H., 1432  
 Shultz, Joseph, 1155  
 Sims, H. E., 1518  
 Simce, E. E., 1109  
 Simon, Joseph, 1172  
 Skalicky, Joseph, 1107  
 Skerik, Frank, 1108  
 Skinner, D. F. A., 1430  
 Skinner, M. W., 1435  
 Skluzacek, F. A., 1519  
 Skluzacek, J. F., 1446  
 Skluzacek, Thomas, 1442  
 Slaid, Thomas L., 1051  
 Slevin, J. J., 1425  
 Sloan, F. G., 1206  
 Smersh, F. M., 1065  
 Smith, Adam, 1437  
 Smith, G. L., 1433  
 Smith, John, 1069  
 Smith, P. A., 1523  
 Smith, Warren, 1429  
 Smith, Wm. L., 1244  
 Snyder, J. W., 1431  
 Solberg, A., 1108  
 Sommers, J. C., 1503  
 Sorenson, Peter, 1153  
 Soufal, Joseph, 1219  
 Soufal, Philip, 1219  
 Spear, Everett, 1431  
 Sperry, Albert L., 729  
 Sperry, Lyman B., 490  
 Sperry, W. A., 734  
 Spurr, M. M., 1209  
 Srsen, A. L., 1106  
 St. George, J. M., 1484  
 Stageberg, Andrew, 1065  
 Stangler, Emil, 1107  
 Statelar, Sylvester, 1439  
 Stauffer, A. J., 1439  
 Stearns, Clayton H., 1064  
 Stearns, G. B., 1109  
 Stenbakken, O. H., 1441  
 Stewart, C. N., 1434  
 Stockwell, Harvey, 1215  
 Stoos, J. W., 1444  
 Story, A. B., 1445  
 Stout, Harry W., 1065  
 Stratton, Frederick E., 494  
 Street, John, 1485  
 Strong, James W., 482  
 Swanson, E. E., 1496  
 Swanson, H. A., 1445  
 Swanson, W. C., 1445  
  
 Tanner, G. C., 1520  
 Taylor, E. A., 1482  
 Taylor, H. W., 1451  
 Taylor, L. S., 1213  
 Taylor, R. H., 732  
 Taylor, L. S., 1213  
 Temple, J. P., 1456  
 Tetrault, J. H., 1496  
 Timm, August, 1447  
 Theopold, H. C., 1486  
 Thiele, Gust, 1110  
 Thimsen, N. P., 1208  
 Thimsen, P. P., 1207  
 Thomas, A. C., 1220  
 Thompson, John, 1437  
 Thompson, Thomas, 1441  
 Thompson, W. A., 1441  
 Thompson, William, 1441  
 Thom, Theodore, 1454  
 Thorn, James, 723  
 Thorpe, G. C., 1449  
 Torgenson, C. R., 1185  
 Torgenson, W. W., 1449  
 Torgenson, W. F., 1449  
 Travis, Nicholas, 1451  
 Trenda, J. W., 1449  
 Tripp, C. H., 1458  
 Tuthill, E. S., 1219  
 Tuttle, H. W., 1447



- Twiford, E. M., 1180  
 Uber, Adolph, 1137  
 Uggen, A. F., 1459  
 Valesh, J. A., 1461  
 Van Hook, L. L., 729  
 Vaux, H. E., 1459  
 Vaux, E. J., 1463  
 Voss, J. S., 1001  
 Vesledal, O. S., 1461  
 Vetter, A. H., 1151  
 Vikla, J. P., 1533  
 Vikla, M. G., 1533  
 Vikla, M. R., 1532  
 Vikla, W. J., 1535  
 Viner, John H., 1069  
 Vinton, C. W., 1140  
 Virtue, John, 1155  
 Virtue, Leonard, 1162  
 Vogelsberg, A. J., 1460  
 Volker, J. A., 1111  
 Von Eschen, L. F., 1462  
 Wadell, Wm., 1466  
 Walden, J. M., 1469  
 Walter, Sam'l., 1173  
 Wanous, Wm., 1121  
 Wardwell, W. B., 1185  
 Ware, A. K., 1478  
 Watts, Lambert, 1479  
 Warvin, John, 1190  
 Wavrin, William, 1071  
 Webb, F. C., 1190  
 Webster, E. R., 1174  
 Weinberger, G. L., 1465  
 Weld, L. R., 1545  
 Wells, James, 130  
 Wemple, E. B., 1477  
 West, S. M., 1468  
 Weston, G. S., 1476  
 Weyer, Adam, 1521  
 Weyer, M. C., 1521  
 Wheaton, C. A., 1526  
 Wheelock, E. F., 1464  
 Wheelock, L. L., 1129  
 Whipple, Right Rev. Henry B., 260  
 Whitman, M. D., 1137  
 Whitney, C. M., 1464  
 Whiting, E. K., 1541  
 Whitney, H. E., 1530  
 Whittier, C. F., 1471  
 Whittier, H. A., 1470  
 Wickham, J. B., 1472  
 Wickham, W. M., 1467  
 Wilker, Albert, 1155  
 Wilker, C. H., 1158  
 Wilker, W. F., 1162  
 Wilker, J. C., 1111  
 Wilkowske, F. H., 1475  
 Wilkins, R. C., 1471  
 Williamson, O. E., 1070  
 Williams, W. E., 1189  
 Wilson, F. C., 1192  
 Wilson, H. G., 1191  
 Winans, N. O., 1474  
 Winkley, A. A., 1473  
 Winship, H. N., 1192  
 Woker, Wm., 1156  
 Wolesky, J. F., 1167  
 Wolf, E. J., 1476  
 Wolf, H. W., 1466  
 Wolff, E. C., 1176  
 Wolff, Herman, 1178  
 Wood, H. G., 1111  
 Woodard, Rufus T., 1071  
 Yearly, S. M., 724  
 Young, A. J., 1245  
 Young, J. F., 1232  
 Zabel, Wm., 1481  
 Zimmerman, Wm., 1480  
 Zwiener, A. J., 1193  
 Zwiener, Frank, 1112

## ILLUSTRATIONS

- Barron House, 345  
 Barron, Horace E., 345  
 Batzle, Elizabeth, 1226  
 Batzle, Christopher, 1226  
 Bigelow, E. E., 1245  
 Brown, L. C., 1034  
  
 Cashman, T. E., 1231  
 Cleifton, G. J., 1036  
 Clifford, John, 1492  
 Cogswell, Amos, 721  
 Couper, J. C., 1529  
 Crocke, S. L., 1278  
  
 Dobbin, James, 1288  
 Dorrance, Geo., 1295  
  
 Faribault, Alexander (Frontispiece)  
 Faribault, Jean Baptiste, 1520  
 Frink, F. W., 329  
  
 Glotzbach, F. L., 1318  
  
 Hammel, L. F., 1052  
 Hollister, L. M., 1332  
 Howe, T. J., 1047  
 Hulett, Luke, 1520  
  
 Jansen, Mr. and Mrs. U. C., 1182  
 Jewett, Stephen, 1510  
  
 Kelly, Wm. H., 1222  
  
 Leach, E. M., 380  
  
 Morehouse, Eli M. (Frontispiece Vol. II)  
  
 Nutting, Levi, 1520  
  
 Orcutt, E. B., 1395  
  
 Rice County Court House, 370  
 Faribault City Hall and Library, 368  
 Old Alexander Faribault House, 319  
 Crump Hall, 321  
 Faribault High School, 626  
 St. James School, Main Building, 315  
 Last Log House in Faribault, 295  
 Seabury Divinity School (1858), 295  
 Shattuck School, Main Buildings, 310  
 St. Louis Hospital, Faribault, 374  
 Seabury Divinity School, 291  
 St. Mary's Hall, 317  
 Minnesota School for the Blind, 352  
 Steele County Court House, 752  
 Minnesota School for Feeble-minded, 355

















